Tree of Note/Records Destruction

Time

Above all the 40 years of lying and hiding care has left vast number of notes to be destroyed specifically to mitigate claims. Claims should be heard sympathetically with this in mind.

Haemophilia

Of all groups it was always obvious notes on factor users should have been carefully preserved and any loss in these patients is blatant covering up

[Inquiry](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/infected-blood-inquiry-nhs-department-of-health-b2548001.html) Case after case was documented under oath of files vanishing when related to Infected Blood and it is very worth a read of this activity before assuming notes are definitive evidence

Computerisation without doubt saw notes poorly transferred to electronic formats. Many practises actually ask/asked do you want us to keep all your old notes when registering

Note Gaps - It is good to pay attention to suspicious note gaps where records or results are requested or mentioned but full records are not sent or results are missing

GP notes by nature are one line precis of 100 pages of hospital notes. A key part of defining a claim is to fill in the blanks. EG A HCV diagnosis in 1984 and cirrhosis in 2014 will have years of silent fibrosing, A Liver failure post chemo is often reactivating HBV

[On Hospital levels](https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/viralnews/17746568.contaminated-blood-victims-medical-records-destroyed-inquiry-told/) we have received calls from staff angry at entire transfusion records being destroyed after publicity on the infected blood issue on TV!

At [GP levels](https://www.bmj.com/content/362/bmj.k4108) we have had many reports from claimants stating notes related to non a and non b have been overlooked for decades with no action taken or follow up testing ever done.

On a personal level the day I told my GP the 1979 “non a and non b” on my file was HCV, he destroyed the file and made one for Hep A! Subsequently my hospital produced notes of an ambulance picking me up in 1979 with non a and non b from the GP

On the Govt level [2 secretaries](https://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/victims-infected-blood-scandal-were-18979379) of State for Health reported all their ministerial notes (76 to 84) had been destroyed subversively and entirely to aid in hiding any claims or response to the infections.

**When dealing with notes we need to always remember tens of thousands were left to die untested and lied to about the risks. Over decades evidence has appeared of systematic note destruction and duplicity at every level of our** [**Department of Health**](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-on-the-infected-blood-inquiry-20-may-2024) **and NHS in every Inquiry. We operate a 45% notes 35% Testimony 20% evidence attitude to claims. So, for instance a child from Treloar School whose notes of factor use were destroyed has 35% testimony and 20% evidence of being a student eg school report and can claim for say HBV or HCV when positive.**