

22 November 1994

Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy

Mr. Morgan: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what consultation she has had with the World Health Organisation concerning the acceptance or rejection of the term **Munchausen's syndrome** by **proxy** to refer to induced illness, fabricated illness stories in children, non-accidental injury to children or suffocation of children by parents.

Mr. Bowis: None.

Mr. Morgan: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what consultations she has had in relation to medical research work carried out in Cardiff and Leeds studying information provided by the British paediatric surveillance unit on the epidemiology of induced illness and fabricated illness stories of children; and if she will make a statement.

Mr. Bowis: The Department is contributing to the funding of this study of incidence and outcome of **Munchausen syndrome** by **proxy** which is **due** for completion in September 1995.