

A brief note of a meeting held at Finsbury Square House on 6th October 1977 to discuss standards of processing of blood and blood products and the manufacture of sterile fluids in the Regional Blood Transfusion Service.

This meeting was attended by :

Dr. d'A Maycock	-	Director, Blood Products Lab, Elstree
Dr. S. Lane	-	Director Designate, BPL Elstree
Dr. W. J. Jenkins	-	Director, NE Transfusion Transfusion Centre
Dr. G. H. Tovey	-	Director, South Western Transfusion Centre
Dr. G. W. G. Bird	-	Director, Birmingham Transfusion Centre
Dr. D. Thomas	-	N.I.B.S.C.
Dr. S. Waiter)	
Dr. P. Fletcher (Chairman))	D. H. S. S.
Dr. J. Holgate)	
Mr. J. Flint)	
<i>D. S. MURRAY</i>	-	<i>Director, Southern Transfusion Centre</i>

The document drafted by Mr. Flint after the previous meeting of Departmental representatives on 15th July was considered in detail and an amended version is attached.

It was agreed that the document should be presented to the full meeting of Regional Transfusion Directors on December 14th as being the basis on which inspection of Regional Transfusion Centres would be undertaken.

Means of implementing the standard were considered and the following alternatives were proposed :

1. All Transfusion Centres to be upgraded to provide aseptic processing facilities for all products prepared by open techniques; and this to include the pooling of plasma.
2. Discontinue plasma pooling in 5 litre packs and send plasma to the Elstree and Edinburgh Blood Products Laboratories in single donations. This would reduce the need for large aseptic units in the Regional Centres.
3. If the Blood Products Laboratories cannot accept plasma in single packs then a few Centres, probably three or four, might be upgraded with the necessary aseptic facilities to pool plasma for all other Centres.

It was finally agreed that the pooling of plasma should be phased out over a period of time and that the Blood Products Laboratories should modify their procedures to accept supplies of plasma as single units.

It was also decided that there would still be a need for the special cleansing cabinet which was being developed for Liverpool Transfusion Centre and that the Department (through Supply Division) should be asked to consider financial support.

John Flint.