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Subject: FW: URGENT: Blood Transfusion Incident involving variant-CJD:
For IMMEDIATE Transmission to HPU managing affected patients

> Dear All,
>
> Two practical implementation issues were considered in depth at a
> co-ordinating teleconference this afternoon with the following outcome:
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> Firstly, two GP's and their CCDC have initially argued that informing
> their patients ought to be delayed because a) the patients are quite
> elderly and very unlikely to put other patients at risk over Christmas,
> and b) the best local arrangements to provide back-up support will not be
> available until early in the New Year.
>
> It was concluded at the teleconference that the aim should remain to
> inform patients as quickly as possible.
>
> However, local discretion to delay informing patients could be exercised,
> but only AFTER a three-way telephone discussion involving the GP, the
> local CCDC, and one of the Consultants undertaking national co-ordination
> (Mike Painter, Fortune Ncube, Noel Gill, or Nicky Connor). There was
> concern that while we should be prepared to respect the GP's judgement in
> delaying notification, we should ensure that the GP was aware of all the
> issues to be considered.
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