

FURTHER SUPPLEMENTARY LETTER OF INSTRUCTION TO HEPATITIS EXPERT GROUP (VIROLOGY) October 2022

Dear Professor Cooke,

Re: The Infected Blood Inquiry

- 1. I am writing on behalf of the Chair to the Infected Blood Inquiry, Sir Brian Langstaff, with instructions for the preparation of a report by the group of virology and blood transfusion experts ('the group').
- 2. The purpose of the report is to provide evidence about matters within the expertise of the group that may assist the Chair in fulfilling the Inquiry's Terms of Reference. I set out in more detail below the topics and questions that the Chair asks you to address at this stage. The report will be provided to the Core Participants to the Inquiry and will be published on the Inquiry's website.
- As before, the topics and questions set out below are for the most part framed in broad terms, with the aim of allowing the group to approach matters as you see fit.

Further supplemental instructions

- 4. Further to the reports about hepatitis and HIV dated January 2020, the Inquiry would be grateful for further information about the following viruses:
 - a. other hepatitis viruses: hepatitis A, hepatitis D, hepatitis E
 - b. other retroviruses: human t-lymphotropic virus (HTLV)
 - c. other viruses: cytomegalovirus (CMV), human papillomavirus (HPV), parvovirus

in particular:

- i. clinical features
- ii. when the virus was first recognised
- iii. when testing became available
- iv. when screening (if applicable) became available and was introduced
- v. whether any other risk reduction methods, such as leucodepletion, are effective.
- 5. Please explain if there is evidence of an infective cause transmissible by blood for primary biliary cirrhosis.
- Further to the report about hepatitis dated January 2020, please explain if it is
 possible for hepatitis C to reactivate in a person who has achieved a sustained
 virological response if they are exposed to illness or treatment that suppresses
 their immune system.
- 7. May I thank you and the other group members once again for agreeing in principle to assist the Inquiry. If there is anything that I can do to assist or there

are any aspects of these instructions that you would like to clarify then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Moore Flannery

Infected Blood Inquiry, Secretariat.