

TO: Those Copied

DATE 3/14/83

FROM: John Hink
SUBJECT: American Blood Resources Assn. Meeting -
Las Vegas, 3/10-3/11 - A Summary of the
More Significant Information Discussed

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1. Bob Reilly indicated that Dr. Donahue has submitted his resignation. For now Dr. Petricciani has refrained from accepting it. It was said that Dr. Petricciani is looking into a possible reorganizing of OoB. Reilly thinks Dr. Gerity is the most likely successor to Donahue if organization is not drastically changed. Donahue is said to have tried for Irwin Memorial Directorship without success.
- 2. Bruce Evatt, M.D. of CDC gave a 3 hour presentation on AIDS which was pretty much an update of info given at the Jan. CDC meeting in Atlanta and other recent meetings. Some items of interest for the record:
 - a. Definition of AIDS (new)
 - Biopsy proving Kaposi sarcoma and/or biopsy or culture proven life threatening opportunistic infection, such as P. carinii, CMV, progressive HSV, Candidiasis of throat, Aspergillus pneumonia, Mycobacterium A and others
 - less than 60 years of age
 - immunodeficiency
 - b. Evatt is convinced that the degree of epidemic is much greater than indicated by results reported. Many cases not reported. Reporting not required.
 - c. Pentamidine, therapeutic treatment usage greatly accelerating.
 - d. About 1/2 hemophilic population perceived to have abnormal T cell function. Expects 50% to come down with AIDS. Attack rate today 0.1% for hemophiliacs, 0.75 for homosexuals.
 - e. Recommends surrogate testing of blood and plasma donors using anti-HBc plus SBA (staph binding activity). Although this combination was discussed at Atlanta, it sounded to me that CDC would be grateful to get anti-HBc alone. Subsequent agreement for pilot testing has seemingly allowed CDC to upgrade their recommendation.

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- f. Thymosen \propto 1 measurement was somewhat of a joke to Evatt. He stated 60% of normals will show elevated levels.
 - g. AIDS in hemophiliacs increasing rapidly. Now 14 confirmed, one susceptible (1 Factor IX, 1 possibly bisexual mate). Most with PCP, none with Kaposi's, all have elevated globulins.
 - h. Factor IX patient came from Trinidad as did another AIDS victim and must be considered separately for now.
 - i. At our evening social, I talked to Evatt and learned that CDC has been sent one of the three Long Beach AIDS victims plasma units sold by Cutter to OoB. CDC is isolating virus from the unit for study. Evatt would like us to hold our remaining unit in case they find something interesting. He told me that CDC has found HB Dane particles in all commercially manufactured AHF.
 - j. Evatt says current data on chimps and monkey colonies with high death rate are showing immune system changes different from humans. Current data suggest not an AIDS like disease.
- 3. Toby Simon of Blood Systems reported on their surrogate testing. Using anti HBc and lymphocyte counts they found that 13 admitted male homosexuals showed 5 anti HBc positive and 1 with lymphocytes below the 1000 count cut off. The lymphocyte incidence was concluded to be about the same as "normal" population. He reported that MSD HB Vaccine is being administered to hemophiliac infants who have not yet developed anti-HBs.
 - 4. ABRA Plasma Forum to be held 6/7-6/9, Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, VA. Lou Aledort to receive Alpha Award. Main topics to be AIDS and Continuous Flow Plasmapheresis, with a simultaneous session on "Job Skills Seminar" (supported with a \$40,000 grant from Fenwal for development of training modules which will be made available to ABRA members). At this time Fenwal will be the main speaker on Continuous Flow Plasmapheresis and certainly the volume of plasma per donation will be key to the topic.
 - 5. ABRA has been asked to provide a response to ABC as to what programs should be funded, where should funds originate or should ABC be disbanded. ABRA will probably respond diplomatically, i.e. ABC goals are different from ABRA's, ABRA was rejected as part of ABC, ABRA has no comment.
 - 6. American Red Cross is collecting plasma at the Salem, Oregon penitentiary. I hope we receive no "fresh frozen" plasma from this source.

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7. Probably the most significant item obtained at the meeting was the copy of a draft of a "Recommendation to Decrease the Risk of Transmitting Infectious Diseases from Plasma Donors" given to ABRA last week for comment. It goes beyond that which Donahue has provided verbally e.g.,

- a. exclusion of sexual partners of individuals at increased risk of AIDS
- b. SOPs to be revised to include questions on signs of AIDS including kaposi's sarcoma
- c. lymphadenopathy on each donor on day of plasma donation
- d. an accurate graph of each plasma donor's weight

(we understand that Blood Banks will not be requested to conduct lymphadenopathy or kaposi's screen).

(No mention of prison plasma is made).

GRO-C: John Hink

JHH:gml

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