



**National
Blood Transfusion Service**

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Director: Dr J Darnborough, MB, ChB, MCPATH

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Dear Dr. Maycock,

Hepatitis Associated Antigen Testing

I was a little disturbed by some of the statements made under this heading at the last meeting, and this has continued to worry me since then. As you are well aware, there are several Centres who have been working on this; Dr. Entwistle here has been for several months and is now getting very good results with counter-current electrophoresis. This, however, has all been experimental work aimed at getting the technique going and being able to screen for reagents.

I got the impression at the last meeting that other Centres were now aiming to do rather more than this and were preparing to do mass screening of all their donors. It may be that I have got the wrong impression here, but this seems to me contrary to a firmly held view (expressed by yourself) that mass screening of NBTS donors should not be instituted except on a national scale, and I do hope that there is going to be no wavering or change on this particular point. The introduction of HAA testing in a piecemeal fashion could, I am sure, lead to considerable medico-legal complications.

I hope that this can be brought to the notice of the Advisory Sub-Committee.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

V J. Darnborough.

JD/DA