

## James Virge

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**From:** James Virge  
**Sent:** 17 September 2003 13:17  
**To:** 'Linda Diamond'  
**Subject:** HTC meeting

Dear Linda ,  
I am sorry too that I could not be at the Barnsley HTC last time . As you know I find these meetings not only pleasant and friendly but also very informative.

Thank you for the follow up information via Sue . I think it is important to reassure everyone that the risks of getting any infection from a unit of blood now are so small that mathematical models have to be used to calculate the possible incidences .

Donor selection criteria are as strenuous as possible . Nevertheless we do have some seroconverting donors, and anyone who prescribes blood or queries our very stringent criteria needs to understand this .

Current best estimates of risk I copy from BBTS newsletter report from Sensible use of Blood meeting in London April 2003 ;

HIV 1: 5 000 000

HBV 1: 120 000

HCV 1:2 700 000

Surveillance data is collected by the HPA ( ex: PHLS )

I think Dr David Hicks should be made aware of these figures . I am delighted he is taking this matter forward himself and look forward to receiving further information one the results are known to complete our records and the HPA data.  
Best wishes ,  
Virge