

IN CONFIDENCE

CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 22 JUNE AT 10.30 AM

Chairman's Brief

1. Apologies for absence - received from Dr Lovett (Welsh Office) and Dr Drnborough.
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

These were circulated in December 1975 and no comments have been received.

3. There are no matters arising out of the minutes which are not covered in subsequent items of the Agenda.

4. Minutes of Regional Transfusion Directors

Nothing more is required other than that these are noted.

5. Minutes of the Central Laboratories Sub-Committee

The topics which the Committee will probably wish to consider are dealt with in subsequent items of the Agenda.

- 6(a). Senior Management of the Blood Products Laboratory

The Central Laboratories Sub-Committee recommended that the Department should prepare an advertisement for the post of Deputy Director of the Blood Products Laboratory, Elstree and ensure that the appointee could be offered up to three sessions at an appropriate NHS unit. This is all in hand and financial provision for the post has been made. All that now remains to be settled is connected with the future of the Lister Institute.

Departmental officers can deal with any questions on this subject.

The Central Laboratories Sub-Committee also intimated that Dr Maycock's salary should be reviewed and recommended that the Department should write to the Chairman of the Governing Body of the Lister Institute explaining the Department's intention to review Dr Maycock's salary and alerting him to possible repercussions on other staff of the Institute. The current phase of incomes restraint appears to effectively rule out individual salary reviews and no further steps have been taken in this matter. But a different position may arise if the appointment of a Deputy Director looked like leading to a completely anomalous salary position, when the matter would be looked into again. It is suggested that the matter should not be referred to unless it is specifically raised.

- 6(b) Accommodation of the Blood Group Reference Laboratory

A short paper NBTSCC(76)1 has been circulated giving the up to date position Mr Dutton could deal with any points which might be raised.

7. Factor VIII in the treatment of haemophilia - oral report

It could be reported that plasma is being sent to the Blood Products Laboratories at a rate which is well up to the expected amount. The Expert Group on the Treatment of

Haemophilia has recently met and has revised their earlier target which provided for the preparation of Factor VIII from the equivalent of slightly over 400,000 blood donations annually. The Expert Group now believe that with the extension of home treatment joint surgery etc the current target may represent no more than $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the amount of Factor VIII which may be required in 5 years time or less.

The Department is considering the implication of the new advice - Dr Waiter can enlarge if necessary.

8. Bone Marrow Transplantation - oral report

The essentials of an oral report are

- a. there was absence of unanimity amongst the experts (who met on 16 December 1975) on the advisability of setting up a National Panel of Bone Marrow Donors as had previously been envisaged.
- b. It was felt that it would be premature to devote additional resources to the building up of a national panel at this stage, when essential immunological problems had still to be solved.
- c. It was decided that NHS units which are already tissue typing potential donors or are able to start, within their existing resources to develop this work both for bone marrow and blood component donors would be encouraged to do so.
- d. The Department would endeavour to secure, as far as possible, that those engaged on tissue typing are using agreed procedures and are exchanging information in order that the maximum benefit can be obtained from their work.

A WP is being set up to consider the data to be collected, methods of tissue typing, reagents etc.

9. Working Party to prepare Code of Practice for the Clinical use of Cell Separators

NETSCC(76)2 which contains the terms of reference and membership has been circulated. All that is necessary is to mention that the Working Party is due to hold its 2nd meeting the next day.

10. Testing for Hepatitis B surface antigen and its antibody - oral report

The report is still the subject of consultation by professional bodies and others including the General Whitley Council and interested Functional Councils who have not yet submitted their comments. They are being invited to reply within 6 weeks after which time it is the intention to publish the report before it becomes even more out of date. There has been unanimous endorsement of the recommendations made by all who have replied with the exception of the recommendation that donors with a history of hepatitis not within the previous year should not be excluded. The Royal College of Physicians do not agree that the present practice of excluding all with a history of jaundice should be relaxed. It is hoped to persuade the College to accept the new recommendation which accords with that of the WHO Expert Committee

and was changed on the advice of our most expert group of advisors on hepatitis testing.

11. Oral Report on the Appointment of a Principal Medical Officer

Presumably the Chairman will wish to bring the Committee up to date.

12. Report of the Working Group on Medical Staff in Regional Transfusion Centres
NETSCC(76)3

Dr Maycock might be invited to introduce this subject and answer any question on the Report which makes recommendations, inter alia, on the duties and members of consultants. The Report was made to the Department and it has been put before the Central Committee primarily for information.

13. Report on the South London Regional Transfusion Centre NETSCC(76)4

Dr Maycock will presumably wish to try to deal with any question on the Report which is circulated for information.

14. Proposed Symposium on meeting the clinical demands for blood and blood products
NETSCC(76)5

If members show interest in the proposal, the ideas outlined in the paper can be developed.

June 1976

T E Dutton
Dr Sheila L Waiter
Joint Secretaries