



Medical Research Council  
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in association with  
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17th October 1989

Mr. J. Canavan  
Department of Health & Social Security  
Eileen House  
80-94 Newington Causeway  
London SE1 6EF

Dear Mr. Canavan

Re: NANB/Virological Safety of Blood your letter of 11th September. It is reasonably certain that the recent report from Chiron represents the first cloning of sequences from an RNA virus associated with NANB hepatitis. I would strongly support moves to extensively evaluate the test based on detection of antibody to polypeptide synthesised by recombinant yeast clones of this virus (HCV). It may well be that screening donor blood by such an assay could reduce the transmission rate of non A, non B hepatitis in single donor products and in some pooled plasma derivatives.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

E.G.D. Tuddenham  
Director  
Haemostasis Research Group

*C.C. Dr Rejman*

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