



SCOTTISH NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Headquarters Unit
Ellen's Glen Road
Edinburgh EH17 7QT
031-664 2317

JDC/FMM

26th February 1985

Mr J R Y Mutch
Secretary
Common Services Agency
Trinity Park House
EDINBURGH

Dear John

HTLV-III Antibody Testing Facilities

I would be most grateful if you would liaise with appropriate members of the Agency with a view to you communicating to your counterparts in the AHBs on this topic. I enclose a draft letter which I'm sure can be improved.

I've copied this letter to SHHD colleagues for, as you can imagine, there are some fairly significant policy matters inherent in my draft letter.

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

John D Cash.

Enc.

cc to Dr A E Bell
Mr J Davies ✓

D R A F T

Dear

HTLV-III Antibody Testing Facilities

The Directors of the Scottish Transfusion Service are concerned to avoid a situation in which members of the public who wish to know their HTLV-III antibody status and are categorised as 'high risk' from the blood transfusion point of view (see enclosed) may present themselves at our donor sessions when the Transfusion Services introduce full scale HTLV-III antibody donor testing.

We have reason to believe that HTLV-III antibody testing kits will soon be commercially available and in order to prevent the development described above I write to request that your Board considers the introduction of HTLV-III antibody tests as soon as possible, that this test is made available to the general public without the normal requirement to go through General Practitioners and that appropriate local publicity is undertaken to ensure the fullest uptake.

Yours sincerely,