



24th November 1997

STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Dr R G Will
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National CJD Surveillance Unit
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Dear Bob

Thank you for your repeat fax of 21st November 1997 containing the original information of your fax dated 5.11.97 which to my knowledge I did not receive.

I will arrange through Pat Hewitt for this current suspect case of new variant CJD to be followed up but we will await confirmation of nvCJD before taking any action if that subsequently proves to be necessary. My understanding from BPL is that products made from plasma sent for fractionation might still be in date in donated from 1992 onwards, so I would be grateful if you would let me know the moment you have or have not confirmed this case so if any recall action is necessary it can be expedited as soon as possible.

I believe that you have now discussed the situation with Pat Hewitt such that details of any nv-CJD cases will be communicated directly to her in future, provided the Medical Directors of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales agree. This would minimise any duplication of effort and give more security for data confidentiality and also ensure that all the information is collated on the central database Pat has set up for the whole study. You can be assured that we are collecting information on the fate of all the components identified which includes tracing through to individual recipients for fresh "single" unit components, i.e. red cells, platelets, FFP and cryo provided records can be found, as well as identifying at BPL which plasma pool was involved, what products were prepared and the batch numbers of those products. All this information will be centrally collated and provided to the CJD Surveillance Unit.

For your information, with regard to the latest unconfirmed suspect case in Birmingham, (Factor VII deficient woman) whom I believe Frank Hill spoke to you about, we have traced the only two batches of fVII that she received as cover for her tonsillectomy and can confirm

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that neither batch contained plasma from donations from any of the confirmed cases of nvCJD. Although we have been unable to trace one donation from the Liverpool case, by working backwards from the plasma pools, no plasma entered these pools from the Newcastle or Liverpool region, so we are as sure as we can be that no known case of nvCJD was involved in either batch of fVII that this patient received.

Now to the consent form, I may have given a telephone reply, but just to confirm it in writing, the consent form seems OK to me, I would just also add in consent to allow details concerning blood transfusion as well as blood donation. I will also copy this consent form to Pat Hewitt for her comments direct back to you, as she has had a lot of experience in this field, just to ensure there are no loopholes that could cause embarrassment later.

I think we're now totally up to date. Hopefully my 'co-Medical Directors' will agree to a single line of communication which will simplify exchange of data and ensure all the information is centrally collated.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Dr E Angela E Robinson
Medical Director

PS - The original fax and form have now been located in a confidential file, my sincere apologies.

cc Pat Hewitt