



Rowena Jecock

23/09/2004 16:02

To: Claudia.Garland@ **GRO-C**

cc: Mark Grey/ICB/DOH/GB, Jonathan Mogford/ICB/DOH/GB, Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB, Nick Boyd/ICB/DOH/GB, Brian W Mulrennan/ICB/DOH/GB, Michael Clarke/COMMS/DOH/GB, Alison Langley/COMMS/DOH/GB, noel.gill@ **GRO-C**

cc:

Subject: RE: urgent:telegram to posts on vCJD

Claudia,

I have slightly amended the line that I gave to our press office yesterday to correct an inaccuracy (Mike/Alison/Noel - please note). Additionally, I am adding a line stressing the precautionary nature of the action that has been taken here, in order to keep the issue in context.

- The UK manufacturers of the plasma products have already provided details to the relevant organisation in countries that received exports. We will be providing further information to those countries affected this week.
- The action being taken in the UK is highly precautionary, to maximise the protection of the public.

We should not say more at the present time as the 'further information' referred to below must be provided through official channels.

Noel - grateful if you could let me know when country-specific information is likely to be ready - any chance tonight or will it be tomorrow?

Thanks,

Rowena

----- Forwarded by Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB on 23/09/2004 16:02 -----



Claudia.Garland@ **GRO-C**

**GRO-C**

23/09/2004 14:36

To: Mark Grey/ICB/DOH/GB@ **GRO-C**

cc: Jonathan Mogford/ICB/DOH/GB@ **GRO-C** Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB@ **GRO-C** Matthew Hamilton/ICB/DOH/GB@ **GRO-C** Brian W Mulrennan/ICB/DOH/GB@ **GRO-C**

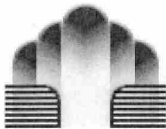
Subject: RE: urgent:telegram to posts on vCJD

Mark cc others,

Not sure who is best placed to answer this. I've just taken a call from our press officer in Brazil saying that a Times journalist based there has been on the phone, asking him what this means for Brazil. Brian did mention the other day that The Times had got hold of this story. Have you put together any lines about the effect of this in other countries that I can let him have? He would need something fairly urgently so we can ensure that they print the correct information and don't turn this into a bigger story than it needs to be.

Many thanks,

Claudia



Mark Grey

23/09/2004 11:59

To: Claudia.Garland@[GRO-C]  
cc: Jonathan Mogford/ICB/DOH/GB@[GRO-C] Rowena  
Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB@[GRO-C] Matthew Hamilton, Brian W  
Mulrennan/ICB/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]  
Subject: RE: urgent:telegram to posts on vCJD

Claudia-re my phone message earlier, many thanks for all your help.

You have kindly supplied the email contacts for each of the 8 countries, and when Rowena sends me the text for each of them I will write out.

I have not received the telegram. Frustratingly, our FCO Swift machine has completely failed today and trying to get this sorted out has taken up a *major* part of this morning. Can you send me an emailed version please?

Many thanks again - Mark

Mark Grey  
International Business & Communications Manager  
International Division-Department of Health  
608, Wellington House,  
135-155 Waterloo Road  
London SE1 8UG

Tel

[GRO-C]

Fax

Claudia.Garland@[GRO-C]

[GRO-C]



Claudia.Garland@[GRO-C]  
[GRO-C]

23/09/2004 11:49

To: Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]  
cc: Mark Grey/ICB/DOH/GB@[GRO-C] Brian W  
Mulrennan/ICB/DOH/GB@[GRO-C] Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]  
<noel.gill@[GRO-C]>, Jonathan Mogford/ICB/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]  
Nick Boyd/ICB/DOH/GB@[GRO-C] Richard  
Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]

bcc:

Subject: RE: urgent:telegram to posts on vCJD

Rowena,

Thanks very much for the information. The telegram went out first thing marked as Immediate. I've asked our telegram centre to forward it on to you and Mark so do let me know if it doesn't arrive and I'll send it via email. I've put your name as a contact at the bottom along with mine, I hope that's ok (queries do tend to come through us first, so it's unlikely anyone will call).

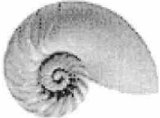
When the additional information comes from the HPA, will you send it to me to forward on to contacts, or will it go straight from DH?

Thanks,

Claudia

-----Original Message-----

From: Rowena.Jecock@[GRO-C] [mailto:Rowena.Jecock@[GRO-C]]



Rowena Jecock

22/09/2004 18:03

To: claudia.garland@GRO-C  
cc: Mark Grey/ICB/DOH/GB@GRO-C Brian W  
Mulrennan/ICB/DOH/GB@GRO-C Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C  
noel.gill@GRO-C Jonathan Mogford/ICB/DOH/GB@GRO-C Nick  
Boyd/ICB/DOH/GB@GRO-C Richard Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C  
Subject: urgent:telegram to posts on vCJD

Dear Claudia,

Please find attached the proposed telegram for posts (Brazil, Turkey, Belgium, Brunei, Singapore, India, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Holland, Israel, France). I am sending directly to you at Brian Mulrennan's suggestion in order to expedite onward transmission.

I would appreciate it if the telegram could be distributed as soon as possible (tonight?), as we anticipate that there may be some media interest in the international angle, and would like affected countries to rapidly receive information through official channels.

Many thanks for your assistance, and my thanks to Noel Gill for his advice.  
Rowena

Dr Rowena Jecock  
Health Protection Division  
Department of Health  
London, UK

Tel: GRO-C  
Fax:  
Email: rowena.jecock@GRO-C

----- Forwarded by Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB on 22/09/2004 17:25 -----



"CDSC - Gill, Noel"  
<Noel.Gill@GRO-C>

22/09/2004 17:14

To: Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C  
cc: Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C Richard  
Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C  
Michael Brannan/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C CDSC - Molesworth, Anna"  
<Anna.Molesworth@GRO-C> "CDSC - Connor, Nicky"  
<Nicky.Connor@GRO-C> "CDSC - Janecek, Helen"  
<Helen.Janecek@GRO-C>  
Subject: telegram to posts on vCJD

Dear Rowena,

I have edited it considerably - mainly to take out obvious gremlins - as well as the mention of Cyprus.

Noel

Title: vCJD further precautionary measures announced, information for posts.

"Selected groups of patients in the UK are this week being notified about the results of a risk assessment exercise for blood plasma products.

The notification exercise, which relates to the possible transmission of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) through plasma products, was announced by Health Secretary John Reid on September 9. Plasma products are



made from pools of thousands of plasma donations, which would greatly reduce the risk of vCJD being transmitted via this route. Nevertheless, the UK is being highly precautionary, and taking public health measures to minimise any risk of further onward transmission through invasive procedures such as surgery.

The following countries have received imports of certain batches of plasma products from the UK, which have been found to have contained a plasma donation from a donor who subsequently developed vCJD.

Brazil, Turkey, Belgium, Brunei, Singapore, India, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Holland, Israel, France.

For each of your countries, the UK manufacturer, BPL, will have contacted the consignee in your country, provided details of the product batches affected, and asked that the information be shared with the relevant regulatory authority in that country. Should Health Ministries request any further information about the products specifically, they should discuss with their regulatory authorities in the first instance. No product withdrawal is required; all the products concerned are well beyond their shelf-life.

**Please notify your Health Ministry immediately of this information, and inform them that additional country-specific information will be supplied shortly to posts in the countries listed above.**

The Health Protection Agency has, where possible, performed an assessment of the quantity of product that a single patient would have had to receive in order to put them "at risk" according to UK-agreed criteria.

Posts will receive this additional information this week in relation to the particular batch of product exported to each country. This information should be forwarded to each of your countries' health ministries as soon as possible.

To reduce the risk of onward transmission, selected UK patients have been told that, because they have received certain batches of plasma products in the past, they could be at a small increased risk of carrying the vCJD agent. We repeat that this advice and the subsequent action being taken in the UK is highly precautionary and is based on recommendations made by the expert CJD Incidents Panel.

A press release was circulated on 21/09/04 to overseas posts. This can be seen on the Department of Health website at:

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/PressReleases/fs/en>

The web address for the Health Protection Agency, whose website sets out the public health and patient management steps being implemented in the UK is below. These steps include a patient notification exercise.

[www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)

(See attached file: vCJD Further Precautionary Measures.doc)

Brian Mulrennan  
European Union Business Management and Communications  
International Division-  
Department of Health  
Tel: GRO-C

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