

28 OCT 1985

NATIONAL BLOOD



TRANSFUSION SERVICE

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Director:

Dr. F. A. Ala, A.B.(HARVARD), M.B.Ch.B., F.R.C.P.

REGIONAL BLOOD  
TRANSFUSION CENTRE  
VINCENT DRIVE, EDGBASTON  
BIRMINGHAM B15 2SG

All correspondence should be addressed to the Director.

Tel. 021-472 3111

Our Ref. FAA/MP

Your Ref.

To: The Administrator

The Little Aston Hospital  
Edgbaston Nuffield Hospital  
The Priory Hospital  
The Worcestershire Clinic  
The Salop Nuffield Hospital

East Midlands Nuffield Hospital  
North Staffs. Nuffield Hospital  
Wye Valley Nuffield Hospital

From: Dr. F. A. Ala,  
Director, B.T.S.

Copy: Mr. C. A. Shakespeare,  
Administrator, B.T.S.

Dear Sir,

The level of unused blood returned from your hospital has been very high. Clearly, your surgeons and anaesthetists are over-ordering. This is a wasteful practice and causes unnecessary work for your own laboratory staff and needless sequestration of blood units for cases that are unlikely to require blood transfusion.

I would strongly recommend the introduction of a "Maximum Surgical Blood Ordering Schedule (Appendix 1), together with a "Type, Antibody Screen and Hold Policy" (Appendix 2). This will exercise significant changes. *Savings*

I would also suggest that you endeavour to pass on unused blood which is in-date to your local NHS District General Hospital. I know that some DGHs, like us, do not re-use blood once it has been issued and these hospitals may be reluctant to accept blood from your laboratory, however fresh it may be. Nevertheless, they are in the minority and I certainly think that they should be approached, for the larger ones will be well able to ensure that the blood is not wasted.

You will naturally inform us of these transfers and no handling charges will be levied for such units.

We shall continue to adhere to our longstanding policy of not re-issuing blood which has been returned to the BTS, however, and in future, a handling charge will be institute for returns, even when they are still in-date.

Yours sincerely, *A*

GRO-C

DR. F. A. ALA  
Director

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