



NORTH WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

BCLD/2/19

Director:
H.H. GUNSON, DSc MD MRCP FRCPATH.

Telephone:
061-273 **GRO-C**

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REGIONAL TRANSFUSION CENTRE,
PLYMOUTH GROVE,
MANCHESTER,
M13 9LL.

HHG/LM

3rd October, 1985

Mr. A. Williams,
Department of Health and Social Security,
Hannibal House,
Room No. 1208,
Elephant and Castle,
LONDON,
SE1 6TE.

Dear Alun,

REORGANISATION OF THE N.B.T.S.

Time did not permit me to discuss this matter with you on Tuesday. However, since I think that this matter may be raised at the meeting of R.T.D.'s next week I write to ask you again if an answer could be given to the request made by the R.T.D.'s some months ago that consideration be given to the establishment of a group to advise on reorganisation of the N.B.T.S.

As you know, I initiated the preparation of the R.T.D. paper and whilst I admit that it was done without any guarantee that it would succeed, at least I thought I had some encouragement to take this initiative. Several of my colleagues were very sceptical of any achievement and I think will be shortly telling me, "I told you so."

I am aware from what you have told me that it was decided that the matter should be put to Ministers and with B.P.L.'s problems the time was not propitious. Perhaps now with a new Minister and B.P.L.'s financial problems nearing solution, the matter can now be raised with some urgency. Perhaps we have not done ourselves much good in this regard by achieving a single date for commencing routine anti-HTLV III screening, an achievement which pleases me very much when one considers the comments made by the Director of a nearby National Service who maintained that such an event was impossible. However, the work entailed in this policy being implemented, largely undertaken by Alison and myself, has been very time-consuming even though this exercise was helped by letters asking R.H.A.'s to reserve funds for the purpose.

There are many other problems in the N.B.T.S. which have been overshadowed by A.I.D.S., but they are still there and deserve consideration. You are aware of my view that improved efficiency of the Service will result from proper co-ordination.

I feel that I must now press for, at least, a consideration of our case. I would be very grateful if you could let me know in the next few days how you now see this matter proceeding.

With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

H.H. GUNSON
Director

c.c. Dr. A. Smithies