



Northern Regional Health Authority

489

National Blood Transfusion Service

Regional Transfusion Centre

Holland Drive, Barrack Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4NQ

Telephone (091) 261 1711
Fax (091) 232 4554

Our Ref. VHC^0381/HLL/pk

Your Ref.

(81)

7th February 1991

Dr H H Gunson
National Director
The National Directorate
Gateway House
Piccadilly South
Manchester M60 7LP

Dear Dr Gunson

Re: Hepatitis C Antibody Testing

The Northern Region Blood Transfusion Service would be able to start HCV testing from approximately 1st April 1991. The Company (Abbott Plc) would be able to supply the first generation test by that date without any problems. I understand that you have been in touch with the Manufacturers with a view to ascertaining when the second generation test would be available.

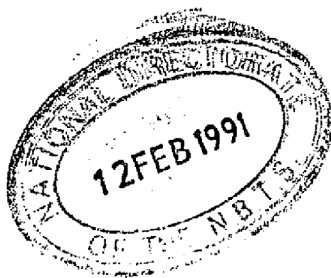
Our main concern over the introduction of HCV testing is the relatively low incidence of positive confirmations of repeatably positive tests.

If the introduction could be associated with the availability of a second generation test which has been shown to have improved specificity, then this would be particularly advantageous.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

H L Lloyd
Director/General Manager



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