

NORTH LONDON BLOOD TRANSFUSION CENTRE
COLINDALE

Ref: cgf

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From: Dr. Contreras

To: Dr. Barbara/Dr. Brennan

I have read the FDA regulations for anti-HCV and the revised recommendations for the prevention of HIV transmission.

I must admit that the Americans have put themselves in a very awkward position regarding anti-HCV testing with no recommendations for supplementary tests. When will they learn? I pity those physicians who will have to explain the "possible significance of test results" to repeatably reactive donors.

With regards to the prevention of HIV transmission, I think that their idea of including a question of having had or having been treated for syphilis or gonorrhea during the preceding twelve months, is a very good one. Should we consider this for our questionnaire? Or should I take this up with Harold Gunson at the Advisory Group on Transfusion Transmitted Infections? Please let me know what you think.

I am bemused after reading these two documents. I just cannot understand the FDA thinking. I do not think it is a very wise idea to stop excluding individuals from countries with a high HIV prevalence.

GRO-C

Dr. Marcela Contreras

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