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20th February 1991



Dr H H Gunson  
National Director  
The National Directorate  
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Dear Harold

Thank you for your letter of the 21st January concerning the HIV follow up study. I am sorry that I have not replied sooner.

I think that Marcela's letter expresses a reasonable concern I have so far received data on 84 donors on the comprehensive questionnaire that she mentions. North London and one or two other Regional Transfusion Centres including the Manchester Centre have continued to send in completed forms. Certain Transfusion Centres have never sent them. Scotland has never participated apart from a few forms from Edinburgh. You will know from Vi Rawlinson's data how complete that I have is. You will remember that I came to Manchester a couple of years ago to discuss the possibility of chasing up data that I had not received. We compared my list with Vi's list but nothing came of that. I have made sure that all of the data that I have has been cross referenced with Janet Mortimer in the hope that it would help her information gathering efforts.

AS I say I agree with Marcela that there is information here which should be reported even though the survey is not complete. These days I have far more work to do than I can possibly cope with, but I will give this task priority. My computer records are up to date and it should not take too long.

I think at this stage we should abandon the study as I do not think that we will learn more from it that is not being learnt from other data gathering efforts. The most obvious feature in recent reports is the increasing incidence of positive female donors and heterosexual transmission.

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THE NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

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As you are well aware the look back element of this study never got off the ground, people were simply unwilling, I hope that this answers your queries fully, if I have not sent you a report fairly soon please do not hesitate to badger me.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

T.B. Wallington  
CONSULTANT IMMUNOLOGIST