



YORKSHIRE

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

DIRECTOR/GENERAL MANAGER
E Angela Robinson MBBS FRCPath

Dr. H. H. Gunson,
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The National Directorate,
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EAR/JH



13th August 1991

Dear Harold,

In response to your letter of 28th June 1991 re the 1992/93 BPL projection of 500 tonnes normal plasma requirement:

(i) Recovered Plasma

I have looked into our current whole blood issues as the data indicated that currently 14% of our issues are in the form of whole blood. Approximately 8% is in fact modified blood, i.e. platelet poor and cryo poor blood:- not differentiated as yet by our in house data collection and has therefore been lumped in as part of our whole blood issues.

Since I received your letter the amount of platelet poor blood has immediately been reduced with the plasma also being removed to supplement our recovered FFP production. We have also taken steps to reduce the amount of whole blood available for issue. These 2 steps should bring our whole blood issues more into line with the national average, without compromising the continued whole blood requirement of our 3 cardiac surgery centres and the liver transplant unit.

(ii) Apheresed Plasma

As a result of the BPL situation and their request that RTC's should collect as much recovered plasma as possible and minimise the supplement required from apheresis I have set up a project team to do a detailed cost comparative analysis to determine which is the most cost effective method for collecting plasma and platelets.

i.e. will it be cost effective to switch the majority of our platelet production to our apheresis programme thereby reducing the apheresis plasma volume production but increasing the volume of recovered plasma available.

The results of this analysis will not be available until the end of October hence I cannot answer (ii) until I am sure what our strategy will be for 1992/93.

What I can say is that the current uptake of BPL factor VIII products by the Yorkshire region indicates a likely annual usage of 8M units. Our 1991/92 normal plasma input is targeted to be 37,000 litres (24,000L recovered 13,000L apheresed).

Assuming the fVIII yield is approx 190 iu/L the YBTS supply of source plasma to reach regional self-sufficiency in terms of the BPL fVIII uptake by the Yorkshire region is equivalent to 42,000L.

I am back to my original theme of linking plasma supply to BPL by RTC's to the Regional uptake of BPL products, i.e. if I am going to purchase 8M units of fVIII for regional distribution I would like the opportunity to supply the volume of source material required to produce 8M units of fVIII.

However I will let you know as soon as I know myself what our proposed plasma collection pattern and mix will be for 1992/93. The plasma target the project team have been given is 37,000 litres normal plasma (leaving 2,000L for specific plasma collection by apheresis.)

If the target of 37,000 litres from the Yorkshire region is likely to be in excess of our allocated BPL quota please could you let me know, as this will alter how we formulate our strategy for 1992/93.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

Dr. E. Angela Robinson.
Director/General Manager.