

19th May, 1995.



PF/SEG

Dr. E.A.E. Robinson,
Medical Director,
National Blood Authority,
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Dear Angela,

Re: Progress on HCV Lookback

Thank you for your memorandum dated 2nd May seeking information on the current status of the HCV Lookback in northern centres. I believe I had already provided you with the baseline information related to the extent of the problem in the north. The table below summarizes this data again for your convenience.

HCV Lookback - the Northern experience

	Newcastle	Leeds	Sheffield	Manchester	Lancaster	Liverpool	Total
Number donors identified as HCV antibody pos since starting testing	74	89	159	161	95	102	680
Number HCV pos donors with previous untested donations	53	65	84	83	47	72	404
Number of donations involved in lookback	536	194	770	426	223	528	2677
Number components involved in lookback ¹	719	345	*	596	334	593	2587
Number of implicated components for hospital to trace	224	237	435	426	181	456	1979
Number of implicated components where RTC unable to trace ultimate destination	268	31	196	0	12	137	644

note 1. includes donations to BPL, hospital returns etc.

All centres have now commenced the lookback process and the LBF1 forms have been sent to individual hospitals. The process is still in its early phases and it is difficult to identify specific problems. I suspect that these may become apparent as the process develops.

A number of people have raised questions with regard to the funding of the work undertaken by the hospitals, both in the context of the lookback search process and subsequent patient investigation and management. I feel it would be helpful if a clear statement could be issued to all centres with regard to this issue.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

Dr. P. Flanagan,
Clinical Director Northern Zone (Designate)

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