



NATIONAL BLOOD AUTHORITY

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To all Zonal Clinical Directors

Dear Sue

Welcome aboard! Here's the first problem I'd like your advice and input on -

Tracing Donations from HCV Positive Donors

Do we or do we not need a mechanism to locate donations which an identified HCV antibody positive donor may have given in other regions? This may be of particular relevance for donors who live near the borders of 2 regions or who may have relocated during the relevant time period.

In order to guarantee the identification of all donations from a particular donor it may be necessary for the donor information to be circulated to all regions so that corresponding records held in any other regions can be identified. This would be a major task if handled manually but an automated solution maybe possible. If information on the HCV antibody positive donors were circulated to all regions using the standard for donor record transfer as defined by the Data Transfer Standards Task Force and which was modified for use during the TRACE/SAVANT trial, it should be possible to provide software that will perform the necessary searches. I would like your advice as to whether this is a feasible approach and one that would be worthwhile or possible to implement nationally.

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Paul Ashford of the TRACE consortium would be willing to assist in producing the software and I am sure that Peter Garwood would also be prepared to advise on this issue, following up his experience with the TRACE/SAVANT trial of donor data transfer.

However, I would like your advise on whether or not we should try and progress this as a national initiative as part of the HCV Look Back programme.

Thanking you in anticipation of an early response!

Best wishes and good luck for the future.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Dr E Angela Robinson
Medical Director

cc For information to -

Paul Ashford, TRACE Consortium

Pat Hewitt, NLBTC

Peter Garwood, Director of Operations, NLBTC (Chairman of Data Transfer Standards Task Force)