

AG/ser

29 March 1995

To: All Consultants in Charge of Blood Banks  
North East Thames Region

Dear Colleague

Re: **HEPATITIS C LOOK-BACK EXERCISE**

The Chief Medical Officer will be writing to all doctors on Monday next, April 3rd, informing them of the details of this exercise. I am not aware of the contents of his letter but Dr Sue Knowles (Zonal Medical Director) has obtained for us draft copies of the various forms and letters which will be used in this exercise, and further details of the roles of the various players. We are very conscious of the added workload this exercise will place on you and so I felt that the enclosed information might be helpful. It is a summary of my understanding of the advance draft information !!! so I apologise if it turns out that some of the details are incorrect. However, I think the broad scheme of things will be as laid out.

There are four general principles:

All forms and letters have been generated by the Department of Health.

We will send all forms and letters to you and the relevant Clinicians.

The laboratories where recipient testing will be done are to be identified by us and we will inform the clinician taking samples.

The tests will be paid for by the NBS.

There seems no leeway on these principles; and anyway I expect that, with such an enormous workload to be got through, the existence of preprinted letters etc. will be a great help.

I will write to you as soon as I have any further information.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

DR ANGELA GORMAN FRCPI MRCPath  
Consultant Haematologist

cc: Dr. Sorelessa  
Dr. Harrison  
Mr. McDougall  
Mr. Humbleton  
Mr. Ducie 3/4/95

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**From: Dr A Gorman, Brentwood Blood  
Transfusion Centre: 28.3.95.**

## **Hepatitis C lookback:**

### **Summary of information received to date**

**Jobs to be done...& by whom:---**

#### **Part 1: Blood Tranfusion Centre (BTC)**

a: Identify HCV pos donors

Current Brentwood donors

Complete

Past Brentwood donors

Probably complete

b: Identify donation numbers

Complete

c: Identify components

Identify recipient hospitals

Being done

d: Print information for recipient

Hospitals

as soon as possible  
after April 3rd

( this information is to be printed on proformas generated &  
printed by DoH:we have been told we will receive these on  
Fri March 31st: we will print our data onto these forms  
rather than write, to avoid transcription errors)

#### **Part 2: Hospital Blood Bank**

Receive Proformas (3-page)

Identify recipient: complete part of proforma: then:-

send proforma to Medical Records

#### **Part 3: Medical Records**

Add patient details, including GP & Consultant(s)to Proforma.  
Return proforma to Hosp Blood Bank

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Part 4:

## Hospital Blood Bank

Hospital Blood Bank Consultant writes to Consultant who ordered transfusion and asks if (s)he wishes to inform/advise recipient.

### **HOSPITAL BLOOD BANK INVOLVEMENT CEASES AT THIS POINT.**

Part 5:

## Blood transfusion Centre

BTC Consultant identifies Doctor who wishes to inform & advise recipient/patient:

either: Consultant who ordered transfusion

or : Consultant now caring for patient

or : Patient's General Practitioner

and: sends DoH documents: i.e,

standard letter to patient

National Counselling Guidelines

Form to record outcome of 'counselling'

Details of blood sample needed & suitable laboratories & test request form.

### Notes:

(i) Altho' we haven't specifically been told this, the draft DoH letters we have received imply that if neither the Consultant nor the GP wishes to see the patient, the BTC Doctor should do so.

(ii) Copies of forms & correspondence will have to be sent to various parties in the exercise, most to the BTC, some to the patient's GP. I hope that a note to that effect will be on the relevant form to save time & confusion.

(iii) The patient's General Practitioner is to be kept informed.

(iv) There has been no comment from the DoH about payment for clinical management of recipients of 'presumed infected' blood