

STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Please quote reference number on all communications

<ref>

<clinician>

<date>

<address>

Dear <clinician>

RE: HEPATITIS C LOOK-BACK

<PATIENT, DOB, HOSPITAL UNIT NUMBER, CASE NO>

The transfusion service has been reviewing the records of previous donations from donors now known to be infected with hepatitis C. The Health Departments have decided that the recipients of blood originating from these donors should be traced, so that they may be offered appropriate counselling, testing and follow-up, including consideration of treatment. According to the hospital records, the above patient was transfused with a presumed hepatitis C positive blood component <donation no> on <date> while under your care (or your predecessor's) and is likely to have been infected as a result of the transfusion.

This letter is to inform you that the patient will need to be approached with a view to counselling and testing to determine his/her hepatitis C status. Unless you know that the patient is alive it is strongly recommended that no approach to the patient be made without checking first with the GP. If you intend to counsel the patient yourself please indicate your willingness by completing the questionnaire below and returning this letter to the transfusion centre in the reply paid envelope provided. You will then be provided with further notes on hepatitis C that should assist you. Unless you indicate within the next 14 days that you yourself wish to contact this patient, I propose to pass details of this patient to the clinician or GP currently responsible for their care so that contact can be made with them prior to notification of the recipient. If you know that the patient has died, please provide details of the date and cause of death.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns arising from this letter.

With many thanks.

Yours sincerely

CONSULTANT HAEMATOLOGIST

.....
I do/do not wish to counsel this patient

.....
DATE

.....
SIGNATURE

.....
PRINTED NAME