

HEPATITIS C LOOKBACK

NORTHERN IRELAND REPORT

1. The NIBTS have identified 23 Hepatitis C positive donors since screening was introduced in 1991. Eight of these were new donors.
2. To date a total of about 120 components donated by the other 15 HCV positive donors have been identified. Some further work is to be done identifying cryoprecipitate. There is a period in the 1980s, during the transition from manual to computer records, which is causing difficulty tracing donations.
3. A meeting has been held with the haematologists and a small number of concerns were raised.
 - i. Legal position for haematologist and hospital. Advice has been sought by one consultant from his defence society on this matter and he undertook to circulate their response to the others and to me.
 - ii. Additional resources.
 - iii. Difficulty of tracking case notes in some hospitals.
 - iv. Doubts whether clinical colleagues would wish to undertake the counselling and testing.
4. It is anticipated that the first letters will be sent to hospitals in about two weeks time.
5. A meeting was also held with physicians, with an interest in liver disease, the purchasers and the virologists.

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