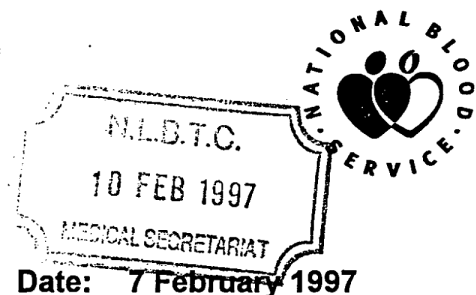


# NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE

## LONDON AND THE SOUTH EAST ZONE



To: Dr Pat Hewitt

Date: 7 February 1997

From: Dr Angela Gorman

Ref: AG/lmc

Copy:

Subject: Mrs GRO-A - d.o.b. GRO-A 51  
Our Ref: JEC96/8

This lady has been discovered to be Hepatitis C positive during an investigation of an incidental complaint. She contacted UCH to ask why she had not been informed of this, as she was under the impression that all Hepatitis C blood recipients would be identified in the Hepatitis C Look Back, and also because she was under the impression that her liver consultant had told her that the only source of Hepatitis C was blood transfusion. She had a number of other complaints about her treatment over the years, which obviously added to her anger. She was under the impression that she had only received a single unit of blood, but Keith Patterson has kindly gone through her three sets of UCH notes and has identified a total of sixteen units transfused to her. Unfortunately eleven of these units originated from your Centre. I enclose a copy of the list which Keith Patterson has sent to me and detail the numbers below also:

Date Transfused	Donation No.
8 October 1987	GRO-A
	GRO-A
	GRO-A
29 November 1987	GRO-A
	GRO-A
	GRO-A
3 December 1987	GRO-A
	GRO-A
7 December 1987	GRO-A
	GRO-A
29 January 1988	GRO-A

We have not identified her (certainly not as yet) as part of the Hepatitis C Look Back and I assume that this effectively means that we haven't identified a Hepatitis C positive donor for her. As we have only five units to investigate, I will ask our I.T. people if we can positively identify the five donors. Mr & Mrs GRO-A are very keen to have a positive answer, but I have informed them that we have not identified any infective donors as yet, and may never do so. They seem to find it difficult to accept this, and I worry that (notwithstanding explanation on a number of occasions by 'phone) they may be interpreting this as a failure to identify the donors. I enclose a copy of my letter to Keith Patterson outlining the problems, as you may need to know this, wearing your legal hat.

Mrs GRO-A phoned me on 3 February to ask about progress, as she has been informed (apparently) by a solicitor that because of the statutes of limitations on legal cases that she has very little time in which to put forward a claim. I informed her once again that she should ask her solicitors to contact me directly at the Transfusion Centre and that I will forward the details to Mr Janisch. I have also written briefly to Mr Janisch, copy enclosed, to let him know that this case is pending.

With best wishes,

GRO-C

Dr Angela Gorman