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PEH/mm/flanag

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Dear Peter

**Investigation of presumed HCV transmission from unscreened blood**

As discussed over the telephone, Liz Caffrey at Cambridge is underpressure from her local hepatologist to investigate all cases of presumed hepatitis C transmission due to transfusion of unscreened blood, including the recall of lapsed donors. In the particular case which has precipitated the current discussion, the transfusion took place in 1984.

Liz has referred Graeme Alexander's letter (enclosed). I also enclose a copy of Liz's covering letter to me and my reply to her.

As mentioned over the telephone, we have in this Zone, undertaken to review donation and donor records in such cases and provide the information about the number of donors who have been subsequently tested and those whose HCV status is unknown. Graeme Alexander is asking us to do more, which is to recall lapsed donors specifically to ascertain their HCV status. I have tried, in my reply to Liz, to highlight the relevant issues. I have also indicated that I would welcome a wider discussion on this subject, to ensure that we are not out of line with our colleagues elsewhere in the UK.

I would be very grateful if this subject could be discussed at SACTTI.

With many thanks.

Yours sincerely

Patricia E Hewitt  
Consultant in Transfusion Medicine

Encs.