Dr. L.A. Parapia,
Consultant Haematologist,
Royal Infirmary,
Duckworth Lane,
Bradford BD9 6RJ

PF/SEG

23rd July, 1991.

Dear Liakat,

Re: GRO-A DoB GRO-A 32. GRO-A

I am belatedly writing to let you know the details of the investigations that have been carried out into the possibility that the positive HCV antibody detected in Mrs. GRO-A following the splenectomy was a consequence of transmission by one of the units of platelet concentrate. I am sorry it has taken so long but this is inevitably the case when following up a group of volunteers.

Eight of the twelve donors have so far responded to my letters and we have received further specimens for testing. In each of the eight donors the tests for HCV antibody using the Ortho First Generation product was negative.

The Yorkshire Transfusion Centre has recently commenced routine HCV antibody testing of all donations as part of a national trial to determine the most effective means of confirmatory testing for donors giving repeat reactive results. We are using the Ortho Second Generation test for the screening purposes. I have taken the opportunity of retesting the stored serum aliquots from each of the twelve implicated donations. All gave a clear negative result in the test.

On the basis of these results I feel we can be fairly confident that the platelet transfusions were not the cause of the transaminitis nor the positive HCV antibody test. I will of course ensure that if any of the four donors who have not submitted a fresh specimen for testing redonate and are found positive that you are informed.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. P. Flanagan
Consultant Haematologist