

*Mr. Gillon*710
16.6.87*1. On 30/5/87 25
Opinion that imply an abandonment of
Forster's information to carry out work
on B testing? The report is
J.M. Forrester*

GRO-C

Dr McIntyre

Copy to: Dr Scott

Mr Macniven

GRO-C

14/5 1987

**SCOTTISH COMPONENT OF RESEARCH INTO NON-A, NON-B HEPATITIS AND
BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICES**

You will recall that we are under pressure to spend some £800K annually on screening all blood donations in an indirect way, in the hope of some reduction in transmission of this group of diseases. The research project that is planned had a one-quarter Scottish component. This was to be directed by Dr Gillon in Edinburgh BTS.

After preliminary interchanges with CSO about funds, I provided Dr Gillon with application documents and advised him to discuss matters with Dr W Forbes, which he has done. The closing date for a CSO application is 15 May.

The outcome of Dr Gillon's discussions is that the Scottish component is being abandoned. I imagine that his Director, Dr McClelland, is unlikely to press it, since his current view is that we had better simply institute screening. I understand that he will inform Dr Gunson, so that English BTS will know.

The English have, I believe, a fair wind from DHSS Research Management in relation to funds. But the statistics of the project were based on a Scottish component, and I fear that the study will have actually to be enlarged in England to secure the required validity.

GRO-C

DR J M FORRESTER
14 May 1987Room 25
SAH