

From: Morris, Kieran
Sent: 28 December 2018 14:32
To: [Johnston, Paula](#); [Ritchie, Ivan](#); [Jackson, Karin](#)
Cc: [Maguire, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Infected blood inquiry missing documents

Dear Paula

I trust the holiday season finds you well and I wish you all the very best for a happy and healthy 2019!

All boxes identified as potentially relevant for the infected blood inquiry have been reviewed by the medical team of consultants Dr Kieran Morris and Dr Kathryn Maguire. I have confirmed this detail with Chris Ainley this morning in your absence.

The list of issues which have been prepared to help with the inquiry's investigative work list relevant topics for the blood services which are: knowledge of risk; policy making, decision making and actions; regulation.

There are two sets of documents and files which I have not come across. The first relates to post transfusion hepatitis files for the period 01 April 2000-28 February 2006 when I was consultant in donor medicine.

A number of referrals were received from a variety of sources informing of patients who were diagnosed with hepatitis B infection and had a history of transfusion. The actions required on the part of the blood service include identifying linked donation(s), reviewing test results, retrieval of archive for repeat testing, recall of donor as appropriate and issue of final report to referring clinician.

Each referral generated a file which was coded PTH (post transfusion hepatitis) followed by the last two numbers of the year and sequential number of case, for example 00/01 indicates the year 2000 and case number 1. PTH files for the period 1980-2000 when Dr Chitra Bharucha was consultant in donor medicine and for the period 2006-2013 when Dr Joanne Murdock was consultant in donor medicine have been identified and will be uploaded and scanned to the infected blood inquiry team. The files which relate to the interim period 2000-2006 appear to be missing. We need to complete a forensic search to confirm whether or not this is the case. I can show you directly in which drawer, in which filing cabinet in the plant room these files were stored securely by me.

The second set of documents relates to a product recall by the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service of plasma products manufactured from a pool of donations including a donor who subsequently died of variant CJD. The products were manufactured in the period 1996-1998 and the recall was notified after 2000. There was a series of meetings during the period 2000-2003 with colleagues in the Belfast

Health and Social Care Trust to discuss relevant issues, identify recipients and consider implications. There are two large buff folders each containing approximately between 50 and 100 sheets of paper including personal contemporaneous notes which I have recorded.

The existence of these documents and files can be independently verified. It is probable the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (product recall) and the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (post transfusion hepatitis referrals) will have made disclosures to the infected blood inquiry already. It is likely that other Health and Social Care Trusts will also make disclosures.

I think the important next steps are:

- Complete a forensic search to locate missing documents and files
- Complete an electronic search for emails which may have been sent to me from a number of correspondents in relation to post transfusion hepatitis referrals. The majority if not all of the referrals were by letter.
- Make an appropriate disclosure to the infected blood inquiry team.

Please note the second and third steps are only relevant if the documents and files cannot be found.

I had hoped to discuss this at the infected blood inquiry meeting yesterday but Ivan informed Alison Carabine and 1030 the meeting would not be going ahead.

I will be absent for the next scheduled meeting as I am on annual leave next week.

Kind regards.

Kieran

Dr Kieran Morris
Medical Director
Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service
Lisburn Road
Belfast
BT9 7TS

Tel: GRO-C

E-mail: *kieran.morris@*GRO-C