

WESTERN DIVISION OF N.B.T.S. CONSULTANTS

Minutes of meeting held in Cardiff on  
7th December, 1984.

PRESENT: Dr. F. Ala  
Dr. D. Collins  
Dr. C. Entwistle  
Dr. I. Fraser  
Dr. U. Jayaswal  
Dr. J. Napier  
Dr. D. Smith  
Dr. P. Trenchard  
Dr. T. Wallington

Apologies were received from Dr. M. Barnes, Dr. M. Fisher,  
Dr. R. Ibbotson and Dr. H. Koster.

1. The meeting had been arranged to discuss the draft document 'Organisation of the Blood Transfusion Service'. There was general agreement that the Blood Transfusion Service in England and Wales would benefit if it was organised centrally, however, all Centres felt that it would be important to retain a link with their Regional Health Authority.

The main points of the draft document were accepted, however, the following additions were recommended:-

- 2.1 viii Teaching and training of MLSO's and junior medical staff.
- 2.2 iv To promote the setting up of hospital transfusion committees.
  - vi Producing tissue typing reagents for U.K.T.S.
  - xii Scientific Research and development.
3. Include central purchasing for blood bags and equipment used on blood collecting sessions.
7. 7.6 The Central Authority could monitor the cost of blood collection and hopefully make the regional centre more efficient.
- 7.7 Forward planning.

Concern was expressed that insufficient Doctors are being attracted to join the Blood Transfusion Service. However, if the general training in haematology and blood transfusion is to be improved the position could get better in the not too distant future. Two Centres felt that the concept of developing 'centres of excellence' was important.

.../cont'd

No adverse comments were made against the possibility of appointing a National Medical Director, however, there was strong feeling against the appointment of a National General Manager for the Blood Transfusion Service.

### Further Matters

#### 2. Prison Sessions

Birmingham, Bristol, Oxford and Southampton have all stopped carrying out blood collection in Prisons. Cardiff would probably stop in the near future.

#### 3. AIDS

The general problems of Regional Transfusion Centres relating to AIDS was discussed. It appears that Centres will not be able to test for HTLV III antibodies for at least six months. The promised DHSS AIDS leaflet was not yet available. Four Centres have produced their own version for the time being. Concern was expressed at the lack of information from the DHSS, particularly in relation to heat treatment of Factor VIII.

Dr. Napier questioned the reliability of the CDSC system for notifying Regional Transfusion Directors of AIDS victims.

#### 4. Dr. Trenchard raised the question of provision of platelets and granulocytes for leukaemia treatment centres and bone marrow transplant units. It appears that most haematologists in the Western Division areas do not centralise the treatment of leukaemia.

It was felt advisable that bone marrow transplantation should be centralised in one centre in each region. However, some patients may be transplanted in London and then returned to the referring hospital five days post transplant.

#### 5. Election of Chairman

Dr. Napier was elected as Chairman of the Division for the period 1985-1987.

#### 6. Date of Next Meeting

April 1985 in Oxford. Exact date to be fixed later.