



NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

NORTH LONDON BLOOD TRANSFUSION CENTRE

DEANSBROOK ROAD

EDGWARE, MIDDLESEX

HA8 9BD

Telephone: 01-952 5511

Dr. T. D. Davies

Director

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : ALL MEDICAL OFFICERS
RECEPTIONISTS
DR. CONTRERAS)
DR. BROZOVIC) For info.

AIDS

This subject has attracted considerable publicity and in view of the, not yet proven, possibility of transmission by blood and blood products, the Transfusion Service is involved. At the recent Transfusion Directors' Meeting it was agreed that donors should not be questioned about their private lives and until more information is known about AIDS, reasonable attempts should be made to advise homosexuals to refrain from giving blood. It is hoped that a pamphlet giving this advice will soon be available for distribution at donor clinics.

In the meantime, there must be no questioning of donors about their private lives, and should a donor volunteer the information that he is homosexual (gay), tell him that current advice is that he should postpone giving blood until more information becomes available or a screening test for AIDS is developed. If he insists on giving - accept without argument and bleed into a single pack - there is no need to make a note on the 101 or the pack.

Some reports suggest that the risk of AIDS increases with the level of promiscuity, and more so if associated with drug abuse. If a donor volunteers the information that he is in this category and insists that he wishes to give blood, inform him that until the AIDS risk has been clarified, his blood will be used for research or laboratory purposes only and not for transfusion. If he agrees to this condition - bleed on the 'B' sheet - use a single pack, and label "FOR DR. BARBARA AIDS" and enter "HOLD" on the B bleed sheet.

DR. T. D. DAVIES

TDD/CHP
23 May 1973.