

Minutes of the Meeting of the Eastern Division Consultants

in the Blood Transfusion Service

held

3rd October, 1985 at Edgware Centre

Present: Dr. Boralessa Dr. Harrison
 Dr. Brozovic Dr. Hewitt
 Dr. Contreras Dr. Kemp
 Dr. Darnborough Dr. Rogers - Chairman
 Dr. Gibson Dr. Williams

1. Apologies for absence were received from Dr. Blagdon, Dr. Lane, Dr. Wood.

In response to Dr. Lane's letter of apology, it was suggested that he should attend when possible and that a deputy would be inappropriate.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July, 1985 were accepted.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) Blood Supplies for Liver Transplants

'Excess blood' data collection scheme - Dr. Napier

Dr. Gibson asked whether the success of Dr. Napier's excess blood data collection had been looked into. The answer was negative. A freer interchange of stock data between Centres, with proper documentation, would be necessary for success.

(b) Anaemic donors

Dr. Hewitt had supplied Edgware's anaemic donors reject rate which was less than Tooting's figure.

(c) Supplies of Anti-D immunoglobulin preparation

A paper describing Edgware's criteria for accredited donors was circulated.

(d) Supply of raw materials for ABO & Rh grouping reagent

Dr. Contreras said that there had been a meeting of the Reagents Working Party the previous day when it was announced that a monoclonal IgM anti-D reagent had been produced in Dr. Hughes-Jones' laboratory. This might obviate the need for high potency human anti-D plasma for reagents. Dr. Contreras suggested that the brief of the Working Party should be extended to the commercial sector products.

4. AIDS

Each Centre was using their own version of an updated 110 form, which were in process of being printed. Printing costs information should be exchanged.

Dr. Gibson had had a donor complaint that blood was present on the object used for gripping during donation.

Dr. Williams was concerned that not all centres were renewing the autolet platform between donors.

The new AIDS Leaflet was criticised and most Centres were sending an

.....explanatory letter in addition.

The most worrying aspect of the leaflet was that it implied that anti HTLV III was a test for AIDS.

All centres had run down stocks of F.F.P. and Cryoprecipitate. Presumably Elstree must retain the plasma stocks and the question of passive transference of anti HTLV III antibody, particularly in immunoglobulin, was raised.

5. Blood collection and donor recruitment

Dr. Darnborough said that the publicity budget has been increased to £350,000.

Dr. Contreras said this was still grossly inadequate. It was generally agreed that it should be put to the Advisory Committee, via the RTD Meeting, that a larger proportion of available money should go to the London Centres.

6. Supplies of 4.5% Albumin

The Division should have been informed of the recent short-fall problems. There was a worry that a serious shortage might develop at a time when little commercial material is available.

The possibility of processing Elstree's albumin paste commercially was raised again.

7. Council of Europe standardisation of BTS terminology

Dr. Contreras had corrected the document and would circulate copies.

8. Donors undergoing electrolysis

Edgware have invited a demonstration from E.A. Ellison. There should be no commitment to accept the company's guarantee but its safety efforts should be encouraged.

9. Advisory Committee on Genetic Manipulation - Health Monitoring Research Group

There was little comment on this item which seemed of little relevance to the BTS.

10. CMV test validation

The panel of sera available at Colindale for CMV validation was thought to be a good idea.

11 & Minutes of RTD Meeting & RTD Meeting agenda

12

The fact that the Minutes of the previous RTD Meeting and the agenda for the next meeting were unavailable, made a nonsense of the Divisional Meeting as a platform for input by non-Director Consultants.

13. Advisory Committee on the BTS

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee was to be on November 6th, 1985.

14. Date and venue of next meeting

The next meeting to be at Cambridge BTC on a date to be arranged.

15. Any other Business

Dr. Contreras requested publication of details of methods for anti-HTLV III confirmatory tests at the various designated reference laboratories.

Dr. Harrison said interpretation of reference laboratory results was desirable.

There was discussion about the positive screening test which could not be reproduced. Donors would only be considered anti-HTLV III positive if the positive result is reproducible.

Dr. Kemp had undertaken to support a local abortion clinic and requested rationalisation of the recommendation in a DHSS circular that 2 units of blood should be crossmatched for all patients having abortions beyond 16 weeks gestation.

Dr. Contreras is advising group and screen in her Region.

The RTD's were to be asked for approval of this course of action.