

# NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE



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c.c. Dr. Gunson  
 Dr. Contreras  
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13th October, 1986.

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PROTEIN FRACTIONATION CENTRE	
Received	27 OCT 1986
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Referred to	Dr. Fraser
GRO-C	

Dear Alison,

re: Non-A, Non-B Hepatitis

At the recent meeting of the Regional Transfusion Director's the above topic was extensively discussed. It is quite apparent that the majority of blood banks in the USA are now carrying out ALT and core antibody tests on donor blood in order to reduce the incidence of non-A, non-B Hepatitis after blood transfusion and transfusion of blood products. It was agreed that a prospective study should be carried out in the United Kingdom and Edgware, Bristol and Manchester were suggested as suitable Centres where some 10-12,000 donors in all could be tested in order to find out the incidence of core antibody and raised ALT levels in various parts of England. It was also agreed that one or two Centres in Scotland should also take part in this study. Obviously it would require central funding but we do believe that it would be most important to carry out this study to see if there is a problem in the United Kingdom. I understand that the Haemophilia Directors are keen that donor blood should be tested, in any case, for core antibody and ALT levels. Obviously, if this was introduced into the Blood Transfusion Services in the United Kingdom it would be extremely costly and we feel that a preliminary study would be extremely valuable.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

I. D. Fraser  
 DIRECTOR

P.S. Dr. Gunson has agreed to reconvene the BTS Hepatitis Working Party to discuss this matter.