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EDINBURGH AND SOUTH-EAST SCOTLAND REGIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

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Dr P Foster Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service P F C

Dear Peter

I would very much appreciate feedback from you concerning possible developments we have here for bulk freezing of plasma.

I am anxious to get away from our present antiquated system of alcohol/dry ice/liquid nitrogen, for the freezing of fresh plasma in single donations or triple pools (the present basis of our cryoprecipitate production). Also, I would like to improve on the Grant freezers for the freezing of bulk plasma.

It may be possible to achieve both steps in one by the purchase of a smallish type of blast freezer, in which coolant is fed into each shelf.

The problem with this may be that the volume of a five litre pack of plasma may take rather more than 45 minutes to freeze and we are considering reducing the volume of plasma put into such packs - ie say two and a half litres - thereby producing a thinner wafer which would freeze more quickly.

I would be concerned about the acceptability of such a wafer at PFC. If necessary, we could cobble up a few wafers of this type for you to look at. Among other things, one thing that occurs to me is that wafers would involve more plastic stripping for each unit weight of plasma.

I understand you will be seeing Chris Prowse on Friday; if possible it would be nice if you could give him verbal feedback, or alternatively, telephone me at any time in the Centre.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Dr F E Boulton