

**SMALLER HAEMOPHILIA CENTRES PRESENTATION**  
**BLACKPOOL HAEMOPHILIA CENTRE**

**Directors, status, patient numbers and blood product usage**

1. A haemophilia centre appears to have existed at Blackpool Victoria Hospital (“Blackpool” or “the Centre”) from the late 1980s and to have treated a very small number of patients.
2. A January 1985 note records that factor VIII from a particular BPL batch had been issued to Blackpool Victoria [[NHBT0096559\\_006](#)]. A July 1987 distribution list for 8Y refers to a centre at Blackpool Victoria for which a Dr Flanagan was responsible [[BPLL0006159](#)]. A 1990 list of haemophilia centres notes that Blackpool (centre 071) was not an official centre and that special arrangements applied [[HCDO0000119\\_138](#)]. The only available annual return is for 1990, recording that Blackpool treated one haemophilia A patient with NHS factor VIII in hospital (1,400 units) and one haemophilia B patient with NHS factor IX in hospital (9,320 units) [[HCDO0002346](#)].

**Knowledge of risk of hepatitis, response to risk and testing for hepatitis C**

3. The only available information involving Blackpool and hepatitis risks relates to patients infected following blood transfusions, rather than patients with bleeding disorders infected by blood products.
4. An Inquiry witness has described being infected with hepatitis C following blood transfusions at Victoria Hospital [[WITN0699001](#)]. The witness first received transfusions in 1978 following a motorcycle accident. He received further blood transfusions, as well as frozen plasma, following operations in 1981. He did not learn that he was hepatitis C positive until 2010, when he had blood taken for routine tests at his local hospital.

5. In May 1986, Dr Lee (director of Lancaster Transfusion Centre and Lancaster Haemophilia Centre) wrote to Dr Flanagan regarding a patient who had developed hepatitis following a blood transfusion [NHBT0054311\_003]. Dr Lee had been unable to identify anything in the donors suggesting NANB hepatitis and asked Dr Flanagan for further information about the patient.
6. Blackpool Victoria patients were involved in the HCV lookback programme in the mid-1990s, including patients infected in the late 1980s and early 1990s (see, for example, [NHBT0074928, NHBT0074951, NHBT0074948 and NHBT0074927]).
7. The Inquiry has received a statement from a witness who was infected with hepatitis C following a blood transfusion at University Hospital London in 1979, and who received follow-up treatment in Blackpool [WITN4291001]. The patient learned that he had hepatitis C in 2003, for which he was treated at the Victoria Hospital. In 2008 he was informed that the Hospital did not hold records relating to his treatment in 1979 as they were over 25 years old and had been destroyed [WITN4291005].

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