SMALLER HAEMOPHILIA CENTRES

HUDDERSFIELD ROYAL INFIRMARY

The Centre and relationship with other Haemophilia Centres

1. The Haemophilia Centre at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary ("HRI") was designated as centre number 47.[1] The Centre received cryoprecipitate from the Leeds Regional Transfusion Centre in June-July 1972.[2] At that time, it was described as part of a group of hospitals which were "*not official centres*". It appears that, until 1977, HRI's annual returns were provided alongside the returns for the Leeds Haemophilia Centre at St James's Hospital.[3]

2. A document outlining the structure of haemophilia centres in 1976 recorded that the Centre was part of the Yorkshire Regional Health Authority and the Sheffield Supraregion of haemophilia centres.[4] It remained part of the Sheffield Supraregion in 1977-1982.[5] Dr Alan Barlow was Director of the Centre between 1977 and 1987[6], when he was succeeded by Dr Mary Morgan.[7]

Number of patients treated

3. The available annual returns record the following patient numbers to 1985:

    a. In 1976 the Centre treated 5 haemophilia A patients.[8]

    b. In 1977 the Centre treated 4 haemophilia A patients and 1 haemophilia A carrier.[9]

    c. In 1978 the Centre treated 6 haemophilia A patients and 1 von Willebrand's disease patient.[10]

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[1] WITN3826016
[2] DHSC0100026_034
[3] HCDO0000092_002
[4] CBLA0000699
[5] HCDO0000138_012
[6] See the annual returns referred to below, as well as HCDO0000352_002 and HCDO0002098.
[7] WITN4560001
[8] HCDO0000092_002
[9] HCDO0001168
[10] HCDO0001265

d. In 1979 the Centre treated 4 haemophilia A patients, 1 haemophilia A carrier and 1 von Willebrand's disease patient.[11]

e. In 1980 the Centre treated 7 haemophilia A patients, 1 haemophilia A carrier, 1 von Willebrand's disease patient and 1 haemophilia B patient.[12]

f. In 1981 the Centre treated 5 haemophilia A patients, 1 haemophilia A carrier and 2 von Willebrand's disease patients.[13]

g. In 1982 the Centre treated 5 haemophilia A patients.[14]

h. In 1983 the Centre treated 7 haemophilia A patients and 1 haemophilia A carrier.[15]

i. In 1984 the Centre treated 8 haemophilia A patients, 1 haemophilia A carrier and 1 acquired haemophilia A patient.[16]

j. In 1985 the Centre treated 5 haemophilia A patients and 1 von Willebrand's disease patient.[17]

Blood product usage and treatment policies

4. In 1976, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with cryoprecipitate (71,820 units) and commercial concentrate (Kryobulin) (3,460 units).[18]

5. In 1977, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[19]

    a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with cryoprecipitate (61,600 units), NHS concentrate (7,490 units) and commercial concentrates (Koate and Kryobulin) (7,613 units).[20]

[11] HCDO0001334
[12] HCDO0001429
[13] HCDO0001530
[14] HCDO0001630
[15] HCDO0001729
[16] HCDO0001821
[17] HCDO0001915
[18] HCDO0000092_002
[19] HCDO0001168
[20] The return also includes figures for the amount of NHS and commercial given to patients on home treatment, but these would appear to be part of the total figures set out above.

b. The haemophilia A carrier was treated with cryoprecipitate.

6. In 1978, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[21]

   a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with cryoprecipitate (32,830 units), NHS concentrate (11,165 units) and commercial concentrate (Koate) (8,270 units).

   b. The von Willebrand's disease patient was treated with cryoprecipitate and commercial concentrate (Koate).

7. In 1979, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[22]

   a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with cryoprecipitate (23,240 units), commercial concentrate (Koate) (22,839 units) and NHS concentrate (8,830 units).

   b. The haemophilia A carrier was treated with cryoprecipitate and commercial concentrate (Koate).

   c. The von Willebrand's disease patient was treated with NHS concentrate.

8. In 1980, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[23]

   a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with commercial concentrates (Factorate, Hemofil, Kryobulin and Koate) (91,109 units, of which 72,799 were provided in hospital and 18,310 at home), NHS concentrate (20,200 units, of which 14,120 units were in hospital and 6,080 at home) and cryoprecipitate (117 bags).

   b. The haemophilia A carrier was treated with cryoprecipitate in hospital.

   c. The von Willebrand's disease patient was treated with cryoprecipitate and commercial concentrate (Factorate) in hospital.

   d. The haemophilia B patient was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.

[21] HCDO0001265
[22] HCDO0001334
[23] HCDO0001429

9. In 1981, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[24]

    a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with commercial concentrates (Koate, Factorate and Hemofil) (36,172 units, of which 27,637 units were in hospital and 8,535 were at home), NHS concentrate (34,314 units, of which 28,449 were in hospital and 5,865 at home) and cryoprecipitate (33 bags).

    b. The haemophilia A carrier was treated with commercial concentrate in hospital (Factorate).

    c. Von Willebrand's disease patients were treated with NHS concentrate and cryoprecipitate in hospital.

10. In 1982, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with commercial concentrates (Koate, Factorate and Kryobulin) (21,405 units, of which 15,775 units were in hospital and 5,630 at home) and NHS concentrate (34,646 units, of which 29,836 units were in hospital and 4,810 at home).[25]

11. In 1983, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[26]

    a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with commercial concentrate (Factorate) (25,124 units, of which 16,265 were in hospital and 8,859 at home) and NHS concentrate (24,554 units, of which 17,015 units were in hospital and 7,539 at home).

    b. The haemophilia A carrier was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.

12. In 1984, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[27]

    a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with commercial concentrate (Factorate) (34,805 units, of which 23,485 units were in hospital and 11,320 were at home) and NHS concentrate (22,370 units, of which 17,310 units were in hospital and 5,060 at home).

[24] HCDO0001530
[25] HCDO0001630
[26] HCDO0001729
[27] HCDO0001821

b. The haemophilia A carrier was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.

c. The acquired haemophilia A patient was treated with commercial concentrate (Armour) (25,635 units) and NHS concentrate (480 units) in hospital.

d. NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Armour) were used in hospital for a haemophilia A patient with inhibitors.

13. In 1985, the Centre treated its patients as follows:[28]

a. Haemophilia A patients were treated with commercial concentrate (Armour) (21,500 units, of which 19,500 units were in hospital and 2,000 at home) and NHS concentrate (20,985 units, of which 19,085 units were in hospital and 1,900 at home).

b. The haemophilia patient with inhibitors was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.

c. The von Willebrand's disease patient was treated with cryoprecipitate in hospital.

14. An Inquiry witness with haemophilia A, who was born in 1968 and was treated at the Centre until the early 1990s, has provided a copy of his UKHCDO National Haemophilia Database treatment record.[29] This records that he was treated with a mixture of cryoprecipitate, NHS concentrates and a variety of commercial concentrates between 1977 and 1984. This included treatment with commercial concentrates in 1982, 1983 and 1984, when the patient was aged between 14 and 16.

15. A treatment record for another patient with mild haemophilia A, who was born in 1967 and was treated at the Centre, records that he was treated with cryoprecipitate in 1978 and NHS concentrate between 1982 and 1984, and both NHS and commercial concentrate in 1985.[30]

[28] HCDO0001915
[29] WITN1137001 and WITN1137002
[30] WITN1196001, WITN1196006 and WITN1196009.

16. A 24 February 1986 letter from Dr Derrick Tovey, Director of the Yorkshire Regional Transfusion Centre, indicates that the Centre received 10 vials of an unheated, HTLV-III infected batch of Factor VIII (HL3239), which expired in October 1985.[31] The batch was received by the Yorkshire Regional Transfusion Centre on 22 January and 5 February 1985 and distributed to a number of hospitals. It is unclear whether the vials provided to the Centre were used to treat its patients.

17. In July 1986, the Centre returned commercial Factor VIII concentrate from batch Y94110 as part of Armour's Factorate exchange programme.[32]

Knowledge of risk of hepatitis/AIDS and HTLV-III

18. UKHCDO minutes show that Dr Barlow attended meetings of haemophilia directors on 24 October 1977[33] and 17 October 1983[34].

19. Apologies for absence were received from Dr Barlow for UKHCDO meetings on 20-21 November 1979[35], 30 September 1980[36], 9 October 1981[37], 27 September 1984[38] and 21 October 1985[39]. It may be reasonable to assume that, as Director of the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Dr Barlow would have received copies of the reports circulated for, and the minutes of, UKHCDO meetings that he did not attend.

20. A Public Health Laboratory Service report, dated 30 July 1975 and addressed to Dr Barlow, recorded that one of his patients had tested positive for hepatitis B.[40] The report also appears to have been sent to Dr Peter Kirk at the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital.

21. In a 10 January 1985 letter to an otolaryngologist at the HRI, concerning a nose operation for a patient with mild haemophilia, Dr Barlow advised that "*we would be in a very much better position to do this during the summer months when we hope to*

[31] PARA0000016
[32] ARMO0000565
[33] PRSE0001002
[34] PRSE0004440
[35] CBLA0001028
[36] PRSE0003946
[37] DHSC0001312
[38] PRSE0003659
[39] PRSE0001638
[40] TREL0000096_015

have heat treated Factor VIII available in sufficient quantity to be able to cover such an operation with far less risk of transferring AIDS".[41]

22. A 14 October 1986 letter from a pharmaceutical company sales representative suggests that Dr Barlow had received supplies of Koate HT to replace the commercial concentrate he was previously using.[42] The representative also provided data on viral inactivation by the Koate HT heating process, which he described as showing that "*there is no risk of AIDS transmission and a low risk of transmission of Non A Non B hepatitis (found to be 40%)*".

Testing for HIV/HCV and numbers of patients infected

23. The Inquiry witness referred to above has described being tested for hepatitis B and HIV at the Centre without his knowledge: "*[16] My parents were first informed of my infection with Hepatitis B and HIV in the early 80's. They were told by Dr Barlow, who said that I had probably been infected in around 1979...*".[43] A statement provided in response, by Dr Morgan, includes the following: "*the patient was tested for HIV in January 1985 and found to be antibody positive. (I had made a record of this in the case notes on the first occasion I reviewed him in the clinic on 2nd October 1987). The precise date is not known, but the patient was already infected before I became the consultant responsible for his care in August 1987".*[44]

24. UKHCDO data available to the Inquiry suggests that 2 patients in 1985 and 1 patient in 1986 were identified at the Centre as having been infected with HIV.[45]

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[41] WITN1196010
[42] BAYP0000009_021
[43] WITN1137001. The witness was informed of his hepatitis C infection in the 1990s, by which time he had transferred to the Bradford Haemophilia Centre.
[44] WITN4560001
[45] WITN3826020