

SMALLER HAEMOPHILIA CENTRES

WEXHAM PARK HOSPITAL (SLOUGH)

The Centre

1. Wexham Park Hospital in Slough was designated as haemophilia centre number 4. The annual returns referred to below suggest that Dr J.A. Easton was the Director of the Centre from at least 1976 to 1989.¹ Dr P.H. Mackie appears to have taken over as the Centre's Director in 1990.²

Relationship with other Haemophilia Centres and Regional Transfusion Centres

2. A May 1976 paper, prepared by Dr Gunson, recorded that Slough was within the Oxford Regional Health Authority ("RHA").³ In 1976, NBTS Edgware supplied the Centre with cryoprecipitate.⁴ An undated list suggests that the Oxford Regional Transfusion Centre also supplied the Centre with blood products.⁵
3. In a 25 February 1977 letter to Miss Spooner at the Oxford Haemophilia Centre, Dr Easton explained that he dealt with haematology throughout the East Berkshire District and that haemophilia patients were treated at Wexham Park Hospital, normally on out-patient basis.⁶ He added that it was "*quite probable that Wexham Park could be recognised as an "Associate Centre"*", and that the King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor did "*not fulfil in any way the criteria laid down for recognition as a Haemophilia Centre*".
4. In a March 1977 letter to the Oxford RHA, Dr Easton suggested that, following discussions with Dr Rizza and Dr Gunson, there was "*fairly general agreement*" that Wexham Park should be recognised as an Associate Haemophilia Centre, with its "main" centre being St Thomas's Hospital but with links maintained with St Mary's Hospital, both in London.⁷ Dr Easton also explained that there had been agreement that Oxford would supply the Centre with freeze-dried concentrate as necessary, and that the King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor should be deleted from a list of haemophilia centres. Some of the Centre's annual returns,

¹ See also CBLA0000009_174, which suggests that Dr Easton was Director from 1977.

² HCDO0002410

³ DHSC0100006_129 and DHSC0100006_130

⁴ HCDO0000098_002

⁵ BPLL0000837_015

⁶ HCDO0000034_003

⁷ DHSC0103273

referred to further below, record that treatment was given to patients at the King Edward VII Hospital.

5. The Centre was part of the Oxford Supraregion of haemophilia centres in 1977-1982.⁸
6. By 1987, the Centre was part of East Berkshire Health Authority.⁹

Numbers of patients treated

7. The available annual returns to 1985 record the following patient numbers:
 - a. In 1976, the Centre treated 3 haemophilia A patients and 1 von Willebrand's patient.¹⁰
 - b. In 1977, the Centre treated 5 patients with haemophilia A and 2 patients with haemophilia B (the haemophilia B patients were treated at the King Edward VII Hospital).¹¹
 - c. No annual return is available for 1978. In 1979, the Centre (and the King Edward VII Hospital) treated 6 haemophilia A patients, 2 haemophilia B patients, and 1 patient with von Willebrand's disease.¹²
 - d. In 1980, the Centre treated 8 haemophilia A patients and 1 patient with von Willebrand's disease.¹³ Two haemophilia B patients were treated at the King Edward VII Hospital.
 - e. In 1981, the Centre treated 8 haemophilia A patients and 2 haemophilia B patients.¹⁴
 - f. In 1982, the Centre treated 10 haemophilia A patients, 2 haemophilia B patients (at the King Edward VII Hospital) and 1 von Willebrand's patient.¹⁵

⁸ HCDO0000138_012

⁹ HCDO0000298_003

¹⁰ HCDO0000098_002

¹¹ HCDO0001217

¹² HCDO0001370

¹³ HCDO0001481

¹⁴ HCDO0001569

¹⁵ HCDO0001680

- g. In 1983, the Centre treated 12 haemophilia A patients, 2 haemophilia B patients (at the King Edward VII Hospital) and 2 von Willebrand's patients.¹⁶
- h. In 1984, the Centre treated 10 haemophilia A patients, 2 haemophilia B patients (at the King Edward VII Hospital) and 2 von Willebrand's patients.¹⁷
- i. In 1985, the Centre treated 9 haemophilia A patients, 2 haemophilia B patients (at the King Edward VII Hospital) and 1 von Willebrand's patient.¹⁸

Blood products usage

- 8. In 1976, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with 217 bags of cryoprecipitate and a von Willebrand's patient with 92 bags of cryoprecipitate.¹⁹
- 9. In 1977, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with 31,570 units of cryoprecipitate and 15,855 units of NHS concentrate.²⁰
- 10. No annual return is available for 1978. In 1979, the Centre treated its haemophilia A with 105,630 units of NHS concentrate.²¹ A von Willebrand's patient was treated with NHS concentrate.
- 11. In 1980, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate (4,955 units in hospital and 53,475 units at home) and commercial concentrate (Factorate and Hemofil) (5,620 units at home).²² A von Willebrand's patient was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.
- 12. The numbers of units in the Centre's 1981 annual return are illegible.²³ Nonetheless, the return shows that the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with cryoprecipitate in hospital, NHS concentrate at home and in hospital, commercial concentrate at home (Factorate and Koate) and commercial concentrate in hospital (Hemofil).

¹⁶ HCDO0001777

¹⁷ HCDO0001856

¹⁸ HCDO0001951

¹⁹ HCDO0000098_002

²⁰ HCDO0001217

²¹ HCDO0001370. A manuscript note suggests that not all of the concentrate administered by a particular doctor was included in the return.

²² HCDO0001481

²³ HCDO0001569

13. In 1982, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with commercial concentrate (Koate) (30,180 units at home), NHS concentrate (1,730 units of in hospital and 9,200 units at home) and cryoprecipitate (40 bags in hospital).²⁴ A von Willebrand's patient was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.
14. In 1983, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with commercial concentrate (Factorate and Koate) (55,690 units at home), NHS concentrate (4,395 units in hospital and 14,675 units at home) and cryoprecipitate (91 bags²⁵ in hospital).²⁶ A von Willebrand's patient was treated with cryoprecipitate in hospital.
15. The figures in the Centre's 1984 annual return are somewhat unclear, but the Centre appears to have treated its haemophilia A patients with commercial concentrate (Factorate and Koate) (106,315 units at home), NHS concentrate (11,050 units in hospital and 49,675 units at home) and cryoprecipitate (167 bags in hospital).²⁷ It treated its von Willbrand's patients with cryoprecipitate in hospital and NHS concentrate at home.
16. In 1985, the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with commercial concentrate (Factorate and Koate) (56,900 units of at home), NHS concentrate (2,140 units in hospital and 1,600 at home) and cryoprecipitate (6 bags²⁸ in hospital).²⁹ A von Willebrand's patient was treated with NHS concentrate in hospital.
17. Throughout the period 1976-85, the available annual returns suggest that the Centre treated its haemophilia B patients with NHS Factor IX concentrates.

Knowledge of risk of hepatitis and HTLV-III/AIDS

18. Dr Easton was a regular attender of UKHCDO meetings. UKHCDO minutes show that he attended meetings of centre directors in October 1977, November 1978, November 1979, October 1981, September 1982, October 1983, October 1985, March 1986, September 1987

²⁴ HCDO0001680

²⁵ Another entry in the returns suggests that this equates to 6,370 units.

²⁶ HCDO0001777

²⁷ HCDO0001856

²⁸ The return does not specify whether the number 6 is for bags or units but the former is much more likely.

²⁹ HCDO0001951

and October 1989.³⁰ It may be reasonable to assume that, as Director of the Slough Centre, Dr Easton would have received copies of the reports circulated for, and the minutes of, UKHCDO meetings.

19. In 1978, the Centre completed a hepatitis survey form for a patient who had been treated with NHS Factor VIII concentrate and cryoprecipitate in the six months prior to the onset of hepatitis in September 1977.³¹

Testing for HIV/HCV and numbers of patients infected

20. UKHCDO data available to the Inquiry suggests that 1 patient in 1984 and 2 in 1985 were identified as infected with HIV at the Centre.³²

Other information

21. In 1987, the Centre was included in a list of centres that might take part in a clinical trial of BPL 8Y.³³

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³⁰ PRSE0001002, HSOC0010549, CBLA0001028, DHSC0001312, CBLA0001619, PRSE0004440, PRSE0001638, PRSE0001688, HCDO0000485 and HCDO0000015_035.

³¹ HCDO0000255_160

³² WITN3826020

³³ BPLL0003575