

SMALLER HAEMOPHILIA CENTRES PRESENTATION
KETTERING GENERAL HOSPITAL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The Centre

1. The Kettering Haemophilia Centre (the Centre) was based at Kettering General Hospital. The Centre was designated in or around 1976 and is understood to have been an associate centre [[OXUH0003752_049](#); [CBLA0000391](#)]. It was assigned centre number 2. The Centre was within the Oxford Regional Health Authority and was supplied by the Oxford Regional Transfusion Centre.
2. The Directors during the 1970s to 1990s were Dr H Voss and Dr E Craven. Dr Craven replaced Dr Voss upon retirement [[OXUH0003752_049](#)]. The annual returns available to the Inquiry suggest Dr Craven became Director in around 1978.

Numbers of patients treated at the Centre

3. In the following years, the numbers of patients treated at the Centre were as follows:
 - a. 1976: the Centre treated 9 haemophilia A patients¹ and 1 carrier of haemophilia A [[HCDO0001088](#)].
 - b. 1978: the Centre treated 10 haemophilia A patients and 2 patients with von Willebrand's disease [[HCDO0001267](#)].
 - c. 1979: the Centre treated 10 haemophilia A patients and 2 patients with von Willebrand's disease [[HCDO0001336](#)].
 - d. 1980: the Centre treated 11 haemophilia A patients and 1 carrier of haemophilia A. The list of von Willebrand's disease patients suggests 1 of these patients was also treated [[HCDO0001431](#)].

¹ The list of patients at page 3 suggests only 5 haemophiliac patients were treated in 1976.

- e. 1981: the Centre treated 10 haemophilia A patients and 4 von Willebrand's disease patients [[HCDO0001532](#)].
- f. 1982: the Centre treated 12 patients with haemophilia A [[HCDO0001632](#)].
- g. 1983: the Centre treated 11 patients with haemophilia A, 1 carrier of haemophilia A and 3 von Willebrand's disease patients [[HCDO0000151_004](#)].
- h. 1984: the Centre treated 12 patients with haemophilia A and 3 von Willebrand's disease patients [[HCDO0001823](#)].
- i. 1985: the Centre treated 11 haemophilia A patients and 2 patients with von Willebrand's disease [[HCDO0001917](#)].

Treatment policies and blood product usage

- 4. The Annual Returns for the Centre show that the following products were used in the following years:
 - a. 1976: the Centre treated its patients with NHS concentrate (18 bottles for haemophilia A patients and 2 bottles for carriers of haemophilia) [[HCDO0001088](#)].
 - b. 1978: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Factorate and Kryobulin). The main product used was NHS concentrate (48,231 units) followed by commercial concentrate (2,728 units). 3 patients were on home therapy [[HCDO0001267](#)].
 - c. 1979: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Kryobulin)². The main product used was NHS concentrate (62,100 units) followed by commercial concentrate (936 units).³

² Page 2 of the annual return suggests that a patient was additionally treated with Koate.

³ The figures do not include material issued by Oxford for home treatment.

Von Willebrand's disease patients were treated with NHS concentrate [[HCDO0001336](#)].

- d. 1980: the Centre treated all of its patients with NHS concentrate [[HCDO0001431](#)].
- e. 1981: the Centre treated haemophilia A patients mostly with NHS concentrate (100,727 units),⁴ followed by commercial concentrate (Factorate, 2,104 units). Von Willebrand's disease patients were treated with NHS concentrate [[HCDO0001532](#)].
- f. 1982: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Factorate, Koate and Hemofil). The Centre primarily used NHS concentrate (138,820 units), followed by 33,930 units of commercial concentrate [[HCDO0001632](#)].
- g. 1983: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with cryoprecipitate, NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Factorate). The main product used was NHS concentrate; the annual return records 86,420 units at hospital [[HCDO0000151_004](#)] and a letter from Dr Craven confirms the Centre supplied an additional 55,630 units for home treatment [[HCDO0000151_001](#)]. The Centre used a further 23,000 units of commercial concentrate and 30 packs of cryoprecipitate. The Centre's carrier of haemophilia A and von Willebrand's disease patients were treated with NHS concentrate [[HCDO0000151_004](#)].
- h. 1984: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Factorate). Patients were treated primarily with NHS concentrate (82,210 units), followed by 34,905 units of commercial concentrate. The Centre treated von Willebrand's disease patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate [[HCDO0001823](#)].

⁴ Some numbers are faintly legible.

- i. 1985: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Factorate). The main product used was NHS concentrate (41,955 units), followed by commercial concentrate (15,780 units). The Centre's von Willebrand's disease patients were treated with NHS concentrate [HCDO0001917].
5. In February 1985, Dr Craven wrote to Dr Snape (BPL) noting “[BPL] clearly have a major problem with the supplies of heated NHS Factor VIII concentrate [...]”. In his letter, Dr Craven anticipated that 116 vials of NHS concentrate would be needed in respect of 9 patients for the next four months [CBLA0002038].

Knowledge of risk of hepatitis / AIDS and response to risk

6. UKCHDO minutes show that Dr Voss attended the UKHCDO meetings of haemophilia centre directors on the following dates: 13 January 1977 [PRSE0002268; PRSE0001665]; and 24 October 1977 [PRSE0001002].
7. UKCHDO minutes show that Dr Craven attended the UKHCDO meetings of haemophilia centre directors on the following dates: 9 October 1981 [DHSC0001312]; 17 October 1983 [PRSE0004440]; 27 September 1984 [PRSE0003659]; 21 October 1985 [PRSE0001638]; 25 September 1987 [CBLA0002386]; and 9 October 1989 [PRSE0001175].
8. It may be reasonable to assume that, as directors, Dr Voss and Dr Craven would have received copies of the reports circulated for, and the minutes of, UKHCDO meetings for any meetings at which they were not in attendance.

Testing for HIV / hepatitis and numbers infected

9. Provisional UKHCDO data available to the Inquiry suggests that 3 people were infected with HIV at the Centre, with all cases being identified in 1985 [INQY0000250].

10. The Inquiry does not currently have information as to the numbers of patients infected with hepatitis C in consequence of their treatment for haemophilia at Kettering General Hospital. An Inquiry witness diagnosed with HCV and treated at Kettering General Hospital until 1978, recalls having an adverse reaction to a blood transfusion at the Hospital, however does not know if this was because of contaminated blood [WITN1995001]. Another Inquiry witness believes he was infected with HCV as a result of a blood transfusion he received as a child in August 1969 [WITN0602001].
11. Post-transfusion hepatitis surveys were completed in October 1973 [DHSC0100020 323] and October 1974⁵ [DHSC0100018 103] in relation to patients treated at Kettering General Hospital.

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⁵ The handwriting is difficult to read but the month is understood to read as stated.