

SMALLER HAEMOPHILIA CENTRES PRESENTATION
NORTHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The Centre

1. The Northampton Haemophilia Centre (the Centre) was based at Northampton General Hospital and was assigned centre number 3. In the 1970s to 1990s:
 - a. Dr R Sheppard was a Consultant Haematologist at Northampton General Hospital.
 - b. Dr J Ross was a Director during the 1980s to 1990s.
 - c. Dr R Daniels, a Consultant in the Accident & Emergency Department, contributed to surveys of patients treated by Haemophilia Centres sent to Oxford.
2. An undated questionnaire completed by Dr Ross states that most Northampton district patients received the majority of their care at Oxford [[HSOC0017509](#)].

Numbers of patients treated at the Centre

3. In the following years, documents available to the Inquiry show the numbers of patients treated were as follows:
 - a. 1980: the Centre treated 12 haemophilia A patients [[HCDO0001454](#)].
 - b. 1981: the Centre treated 17 haemophilia A patients [[HCDO0001554](#)].
 - c. 1982: the Centre treated 11 patients with haemophilia A [[HCDO0001653](#)].¹
 - d. 1983: the Centre treated 13 haemophilia A patients [[HCDO0000195_002](#)].
 - e. 1984: 13 haemophilia patients were treated by the Accident Department [[HCDO0001844](#)].

¹ The document suggests that a further 4 haemophilia A patients registered with the Centre were treated in the Accident & Emergency Department at Northampton General Hospital.

Treatment policies and blood product usage

4. Annual Returns and additional documents available to the Inquiry show that the following products were used in the following years:
 - a. 1980: the Centre treated haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Koate) [HCDO0001454].²
 - b. 1981: the Centre treated haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Koate and Factorate) [HCDO0001554].³
 - c. 1982: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patients with NHS concentrate and commercial concentrate (Koate). A handwritten document annotated “*1982 usage (from Northampton’s letters to Oxford*” suggests that the Centre primarily used commercial concentrate (32,240 units), followed by NHS concentrate (10,245 units) [HCDO0001653].
 - d. 1983: the Centre’s haemophilia A patients were treated with NHS concentrate and Koate [HCDO0000195_002]. The Centre was supplied with NHS FVIII concentrate (8,550 units), commercial concentrate (Koate, 43,620 units) and NHS Factor IX concentrate. Of that product, treatment at the Accident Department accounted for the use of 26,650 units of commercial concentrate and 5,925 units of NHS FVIII concentrate [HCDO0000195_003].

Knowledge of risk of hepatitis / AIDS and response to risk

5. Neither Dr Sheppard nor Dr Ross appear to have been regular attendees of UKHCDO meetings of haemophilia centre directors. UKCHDO minutes show that Dr Ross attended a meeting on 18 September 1992 [HCDO0000248_013]. However, it may be reasonable to assume that, as directors, both Dr Sheppard and Dr Ross would have

² The document contains handwritten notes of material supplied to the Centre, but does not confirm the amount of product used.

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received copies of the reports circulated for, and the minutes of, UKHCDO meetings in relation to any meetings at which they were not in attendance.

Testing for HIV / hepatitis and numbers infected

6. Provisional UKHCDO data available to the Inquiry does not suggest that any patients were infected with HIV at the Centre [[INQY0000250](#)]. However, an Inquiry witness believes her father to have been infected with HIV as a result of blood transfusions administered at Northampton General Hospital between 1979 to 1980 [[WITN2057001](#)].
7. 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 Northampton General Hospital.
8. A Post-transfusion hepatitis survey was completed in 1974 in relation to a patient treated at Northampton General Hospital [[DHSC0100018_104](#)].

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