

SMALLER HAEMOPHILIA CENTRES PRESENTATION

EPSOM HAEMOPHILIA CENTRE

The Centre

1. Epsom Associate Haemophilia Centre was based at Epsom District Hospital.¹ The Centre formed part of the St Thomas' Hospital Supraregion.² It was designated an associate centre.³
2. The Director during the late 1970s to early 1980s was Dr A D F Hurdle.⁴ Dr M J Semple took over as Director of the Centre in 1985.⁵ The Centre was designated in or around 1977 and assigned centre number 127.⁶

Relationship with other Haemophilia Centres

3. The Centre was within the Mid Surrey Health Authority. Until 1986, it obtained blood products from the St Thomas' Haemophilia Centre. In 1986, Dr Semple wrote to Dr Lane and the Blood Products Laboratory requesting a direction that Factor VIII concentrate should henceforth be supplied by the South London Regional Transfusion Centre.⁷

Number of patients treated

4. In the following years, the numbers of patients treated at the Centre were as follows:

¹ BPLL0000843

² HCDO0000138_012

³ DHSC0002273_029 p.23

⁴ HCDO0000138_007, BPLL0004826 p.21 (e-page 29), HCDO0000141_002

⁵ PRSE0001638

⁶ See annual returns data, referred to below

⁷ BPLL0000843; BPLL0010674

- a. 1977: the Centre treated 1 haemophilia A patient and 1 von Willebrand's disease patient.⁸
- b. 1983: the Centre treated no patients with haemophilia.⁹
- c. 1984: the Centre treated 2 haemophilia A patients and 1 von Willebrand's patient.¹⁰
- d. 1985: the Centre treated 1 haemophilia A patient and 1 von Willebrand's disease patient.¹¹

Blood products usage and treatment policies

5. The Annual Returns for the Centre show that the following products were used in the following years:

- a. 1977: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patient with cryoprecipitate (40 bottles) and its von Willebrand's patient with cryoprecipitate (15 bottles).¹²
- b. 1984: the Centre treated its von Willebrand's disease patient with DDAVP.¹³
- c. 1985: the Centre treated its haemophilia A patient with commercial concentrate Alpha Profilate (9,470 units, used in home treatment) and its von Willebrand's patient with DDAVP (used in hospital).¹⁴

6. In October 1986, Dr Semple wrote to Dr Snape asking when heat-treated factor IX would be more readily available and noting there was presently none in stock at the Centre.¹⁵ In response, Dr Snape explained that at that time 9A factor IX was an unlicensed product and was only being supplied for named patients. Once Dr Snape

⁸ HCDO0001157

⁹ HCDO0000141_002

¹⁰ HCDO0001810

¹¹ HCDO0001903

¹² HCDO0001157

¹³ HCDO0001810

¹⁴ HCDO0001903

¹⁵ BPLL0006285_002

had approval for the product to be licenced, it would then be possible to provide Centres with stocks for emergency cover.¹⁶

7. In December 1986, Dr Semple wrote to Dr Lane informing him that the Centre needed NHS materials to treat three severely affected patients, having not previously had any patients on home treatment.¹⁷

Testing for HIV / numbers infected

8. Provisional UKHCDO data available to the Inquiry suggests that no patients were infected with HIV at the Centre.¹⁸

Knowledge of risk of hepatitis / AIDS and response to risk

9. Dr Hurdle sent his apologies to the UKHCDO meetings in 1981¹⁹ and 1983.²⁰ Dr Semple attended meetings in 1985,²¹ 1986,²² and in the 1990s.²³ It may be reasonable to assume that as Directors of the Epsom Centre, Dr Hurdle then Dr Semple would have received copies of the reports circulated for, and the minutes of, UKHCDO meetings that they did not attend.
10. In November 1985, Dr Semple attended a one-day symposium on 'Pathology of Aids' run by the Royal College of Pathologists, London. Included during the day was a presentation by Professor Bloom on 'Haemophilia and AIDS.'²⁴

¹⁶ CBLA0003783

¹⁷ BPLL0000843

¹⁸ INQY0000250

¹⁹ DHSC0001312

²⁰ PRSE0004440

²¹ PRSE0001638

²² PRSE0001688, PRSE0004317

²³ BART0002382, HCDO0000493, HCDO0000494, HCDO0000496, HCDO0000497, HCDO0000498

²⁴ BPLL0002766

11. In June 1996, Dr P E Hewitt wrote to Dr Semple requesting an update on the hepatitis C look-back report from Epsom Hospital, highlighting that the hospital was yet to return any LBF1 forms to the Transfusion Centre.²⁵
12. On 13 June 1986, Dr Rogers, Director of the South London Regional Transfusion Centre wrote to Dr Hurdle at Epsom District Hospital regarding a unit of blood issued in 1984 from a donor who had tested HTLV-III antibody positive, asking for details of the recipient of the transfusion.²⁶

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²⁵ NHBT0089372_005

²⁶ NHBT0089983_004