

## CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE VIROLOGICAL SAFETY OF BLOOD  
MEETING 3 JULY 1989 - 10.30am - ROOM 67 HANNIBAL HOUSE

1. The meeting is expected to last the morning only.
2. Chairman's Opening Remarks  
You may wish to comment on this being your last meeting in the Chair and let members know that Dr Metters ( who will be attending) will take over.
3. Apologies for Absence  
So far only Dr George of Welsh Office has sent ap ologies. The final list will be given at the meeting.
4. Minutes of Meeting on 22 May (ACVSB 2/10)  
These have been circulated. Members should be asked if they have any amendments to suggest before the minutes are accepted as a correct record.
5. Matters Arising from the Minutes  
You may wish to remind members only to raise issues not covered by the agenda at this point. At the last meeting there was some discussion of agenda items under this heading.
6. The only point you may wish to make is to confirm that the Secretariat has circulated details of the 'New England Journal of Medicine' article mentioned in para 4 of the minutes. There would have been copyright difficulties about photocopying the article for distribution so only the reference was given.
7. Update on EC Directive on Blood Products (ACVSB 3/1)  
Dr Purves will be tabling this paper and should be asked to introduce it.
8. The Commission has rejected the European Parliament amendment which would have extended the Directive to blood and plasma when used as therapeutic products. By the time of the ACVSB meeting the Directive in the form circulated to members will have been adopted. A list of tasks to flesh out the Directive and timetable will be discussed at the E C Biotechnology Working Party in September. Dr Purves could be asked if drafting of the UK proposals will start ahead of that meeting and if so, when they will become available for comment.

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9. Human Growth Hormone Recipients  
This will be an oral report to members of the current position in the relation to:-  
Professor Preece's Study - Dr Rejman  
UK Health Depts action - Mr Canavan  
NBTS action - Dr Gunson  
They will simply wish to note the position
10. HTLVI - Proposed NBTS Project (ACVSB 3/2)  
The discussion on this at the last meeting was inconclusive and the Secretariat was asked to produce a paper. The paper will be introduced by Dr Rejman; it poses the questions which need to be answered before any study could proceed. Dr Tedder will be tabling proposals for a research project which could answer some of the questions. He should be asked to explain his proposals before the general discussion.
11. It will be important to focus the discussion on the questions in turn and obtain the Committee's advice on each. It may be better to remit the more detailed questions to a small sub-group from this Committee and the NBTS. The Committees appointees could be nominated.
12. Non A Non B Hepatitis (ACVSB 3/4)  
Dr Gunson has updated the questionnaire on ALT/anti HBc testing in Europe. This will be tabled at the meeting and he could be asked to summarise. Dr Gunson will also present some preliminary results on the UKBTS study of surrogate testing for NANB and chiron testing (HCV). (ACVSB 3/5)  
The suggestion was made at the last meeting of a prospective study of NANB in blood recipients or on stored sera from haemophiles (Dr Tuddenham). Dr Gunson should have available some early results from a study of a group of blood recipients from Dr John Barbara at N.W. Thames RTC. There may be an additional paper to table here.
13. Action in Response to Reports of Infectivity in Blood Products (ACVSB 3/3)  
Dr Perry should be invited to introduce his paper. It sets out PFL'S policy in relation to the release and recall of products following reports of infectivity in blood or blood products. Following his introduction it would be useful to hear from Dr Lane whether BPL has the same policy or in what respects it differs. At the conclusion of the general discussion you will wish to obtain the Committee's views on whether PFL and BPL release/recall criteria provide adequate safeguards.
14. Any Other Business  
To Circulate paper from Professor Zuckerman for discussion at next meeting. (ACVSB 3/6)
15. Date of Next Meeting