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Ref: T158147/48/49 & T159216/17/18

11 August 2016

Professor Marc Turner
Medical Director
SNBTS Headquarters
21 Ellen's Glen Road
Edinburgh EH17 7QT

Dear Marc

CMV TTI Investigation

You advised NMRU of six samples to be retrieved from the sample archive and tested for CMV. The samples related to a possible TTI investigation in which an immunosuppressed patient with polyarteritis nodosa developed CMV retinitis. We were able to retrieve all six samples but for one there was insufficient volume to carry out any testing. However there was a historic anti-CMV result (that you provided) indicating a negative result when tested in 1994.

For the remaining five archive samples there was sufficient volume to perform testing for anti-CMV and all five were negative (see table). From your email on 26/01/2016 you indicated that for three of the samples (** in table) there was correspondence to indicate that they had not been tested for CMV, however in a letter from 1995 Stan Urbaniak also indicated that three donations were CMV positive. You wrote that you assumed that these donations may have been the positive ones described by Stan since the others were reported negative, but you had no confirmation of this.

The CMV testing carried out in the NMRU did not provide any evidence that these three samples were positive for CMV and indeed two of them also had sufficient volume to test for CMV DNA which was also found to be negative.

In summary there was no evidence of CMV infection in any of the six archive samples, although CMV DNA testing could only be performed on three of the samples so a window period CMV can not be excluded in three of the donations (it has recently been suggested that between 0.5 and 1% of the donor panel seroconvert for anti-CMV annually). Recrudescence of preceding infection is an alternative explanation.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Dr Lisa Jarvis
Head of NMRU

Donation Number	Donation Date	NMRU Number	HCMV DNA	Historic anti-CMV result	Captia CMV TA EIA (index value)*
1048228	Jun 1991	T158147	Insufficient sample volume to test	Negative (30/05/1993)	Negative (0.2)
1048368	Jun 1991	T158148	Insufficient sample volume to test	Negative (25/05/1994)	Insufficient sample volume to test
1049240	Jun 1991	T158149	Insufficient sample volume to test	**	Negative (0.2)
1174606	Oct 1991	T159216	Not detected	Negative (24/09/1995)	Negative (0.2)
1175289	Oct 1991	T159217	Not detected	**	Negative (0.2)
1218840	Oct 1991	T159218	Not detected	**	Negative (0.2)

*(anti-HCMV reactive if index value \geq 1.0)

** in historic correspondence reported as not tested

HCV DNA testing performed by NTMRL, NHSBT, London NW9 5BG

Anti-HCMV testing by NMRU, SNBTS, Glasgow G12 0XB