



Department of Health and Social Security
Hannibal House Elephant and Castle London SE1 6TE

Telex 883669

Telephone 01-703 6380 ext **GRO-C**, Room 1201
GTN (2916)

2942

Your reference

Our reference

TO ALL TRANSFUSION DIRECTORS

Date 12 March 1984

Dear Director

AIDS LEAFLET

The leaflet "AIDS and how it concerns blood donors" is due for review and I would be grateful if you could let me have the following information:

- (i) Current stock
- (ii) Number of leaflets issued or taken
- (iii) The rate of usage per month
- (iv) The method of distribution employed
- (v) Any effect on donor attendance
- (vi) Any feedback from donors

I would also welcome any comments you may care to make on the content of the leaflet.

We hope to have a draft revision ready before the next meeting of RTDs. It would be helpful therefore if you could let me have an early reply.

Yours sincerely

pp

GRO-C

S GREEN



National

Blood Transfusion Service

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Mr. S. Green
Department of Health & Social Security
Hannibal House
Elephant & Castle
London

Regional Transfusion
and Immuno-Haematology Centre,
Long Road, Cambridge CB2 2PT
Telephone (0223) 245921

Director: Dr J Darnborough, MB, ChB, FRCPath

15th March, 1984.

Dear Steve,

AIDS Leaflet

In answer to your letter of 12th March :-

- (i) Current stock = 70,000.
- (ii) Number issued = 5,000
- (iii) Rate of usage per month = 1,000.

Dr. Wagstaff did ask for some information on this for the last RTDs meeting and I think a copy of my letter to him on the 2nd December probably answers the rest of your queries. Also enclosed is a summary of replies from Centres which was circulated at the last RTDs meeting.

I think the question as to what we meant by " many different partners" has been raised in other places. This I think is very similar to the old chestnut about the length of a piece of string, but it might be possible to rephrase it somehow.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

J. Darnborough.

Encs.

JD/DA

(R.T.C. CAMBRIDGE)

Dr. W. Wagstaff
Director
Regional Transfusion Centre
Longley Lane
Sheffield

2nd December, 1983.

Dear Bill,

AIDS Leaflet

Further to your letter of the 23rd November, our initial issue from DHSS was 75,000 of which in three months 4,000 have been issued.

These are available at our donor sessions in a similar fashion to other BTS leaflets. Apart from those to relevant members of the BTS staff, copies have also been sent to all Sessional MOs together with a collection of background information in the way of selected reprints. Voluntary Local Donor Organisers too have had copies. We have not mailed direct to donors.

We have had some positive response to the leaflet in that three or four men have written to us saying that they felt they should no longer be blood donors. There may well have been others who have just quietly retired but I think we do have some evidence that the leaflet is having a positive effect. We have had no adverse comment.

We did have a discussion with one of the leaders of the local Campaign for Homosexual Equality. This was a very well-informed intelligent young man who was very complimentary about the leaflet. He did, however, ask what we meant by "... many different partners" - i.e. what did we mean by "many"? I also gathered that the leaflet produced by the GAY Medical Association, which Diana Walford showed us, is not freely available nationally and a local leaflet has been produced, a draft copy of which I enclose. (It does have one very unfortunate misprint).

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

J. Darnborough

JD/DA

Enc.