Dr Rejman

From: Dr J S Metters

7 November 1989

Copies to:

Dr Pickles Mr Canavan

ANTI-HCV TESTING

Following yesterday's meeting of ACVSB the Committee's advice to the Department is clear, but what will be far more difficult to demonstrate is the practical benefits from the introduction of the Chiron test.

This was discussed by the Committee and you heard their doubts. Nevertheless, if we are to convince Ministers that the test represents "good value" we need to produce data about the number of cases of hepatitis that might be prevented, and not just rely on the argument that it is just another screening test that will improve the safety of blood and blood products.

EC DIRECTIVES

In order to meet the timetable for discussions on the Technical Directive and associated guidelines the sooner an office meeting can be arranged with MCA, NBTS and NIBSC, are the better for all concerned. We need to consider this in the context of Dr Geoffrey Schild's recent letter to me.

GRO-C

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