

file: 57/5

CJD INCIDENTS PANEL

RESTRICTED MEDICAL

Rev. Professor Michael Banner

GRO-C

CJD Incidents Panel Secretariat

Department of Health

Skipton House Room 642B

80 London Road
LONDON SE1 6LH

Tel: GRO-C

fax: GRO-C

Email Philippa.Edwards@ GRO-C

Incident number

PI 105

28 May 2002

Dear Michael

The Panel has been notified of a further incident involving a donation of blood by an individual who went on to develop variant CJD. Four surviving recipients of red blood cells have been identified. The Panel has advised on previous similar incidents that the recipients were in the contactable groups and should be told of their potential exposure in order that steps may be taken to protect public health. However, this advice has not been issued, pending the completion of the consultation exercise, agreement by the Department of Health to the Panel's proposals and the establishment, by the Department of Health, of appropriate support for a communication strategy.

I am alerting the Deputy Chief Medical Officer to this incident but will take not further action unless you indicate otherwise. The recipients in this incident are too old to donate blood but may, of course, undergo surgical procedures.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

Dr Philippa Edwards
CJD Incidents Panel Secretariat

cc. Dr P Troop CBE
CJD Incidents Panel - Don, Mary H, Rowena, file, box - next week
DH blood policy section - Charles Lister
NBS - Pat Hewitt