

BLOOD DONATION AND HEPATITIS - DHSS CMO LETTER OF 1 MAY

The position, as I understand it, is that the Maycock Advisory Group set up a small working group to consider geographical and racial factors and they produced recommendations in the form of an Appendix which appeared in an early draft. It was our view as soon as we saw it and indeed finally the view of the whole Advisory Group that the inclusion of such an Appendix could be inflammatory and the Appendix was therefore dropped.

DHSS seem to have interpreted the decision of the Maycock group as being that although the Appendix had been dropped it had been agreed that a letter should be sent out drawing the attention of RMOs and Regional Directors to the recommendations of the small working group.

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All I intend to do at present is to ask Dr McIntyre to discuss the recommendations with the National Medical Director and establish the practice in Scotland now and when the more sensitive methods of antigen screening have been instituted. I would have little doubt that the practice as recommended is what Scottish centres are doing or are intending to do.

If they are not, then all that would require to be done would be to send a letter from the Department drawing the attention of the LMD to the recommendations of the small group and askin- him to take it up with Regional Directors.

GRO-C

G A SCOTT

8 May 1975

