

I am

Sorry to have kept

Re last para, pl

check Judy Sanderson

has received a copy
so as to form a judgement
about whether Pat Troop

needs National Blood Authority

respond. Oak House

Reeds Crescent

Take WATFORD

Hemel Herts WD1 1QH

hereafter in whatever way

you consider appropriate

Dear Sirs

NOT INTERESTED
? CHARLES WINTER.cc Ray O'Flaherty
Alan Harveykeep a close eye on
10 notes
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8 December, 2000

T0101009
Logged in

RECEIVED

29 DEC 2000

GRO-C

Am
19/11Blood Donation Criteria - vCJD

In late 1995 and early 1996 we had a series of correspondence with Drs Rejman, James, Robinson and Sir Colin Walker regarding the criteria being applied to whom may, or may not, donate blood from a family having a member die from CJD. Subsequent events now indicate that we, as a family, should only be raising the question in relation to variant CJD.

Our understanding of the current criteria is that first degree family (Mother, father, offspring and siblings) may not donate blood if the person in question has died from any form of CJD. This ruling is creating considerable distress to family members of vCJD victims as they recover from their grief and wish to help others by donating blood. In fact the question is now being asked in relation to health history in dental practices.

This treatment of relatives of vCJD victims is quite simply stigmatising them unnecessarily.

It can be accepted that the relatives of the inherited forms of CJD - familial & GSS - may reasonably be considered to be an at risk population. Similarly, relatives (but only offspring and siblings) of a Sporadic CJD victim could be so classified as their relative may have died from the first manifestation of a new inherited form.

However, no one can understand why the relatives of the acquired CJDs - Iatrogenic or vCJD - should be classed as an at risk population. Science tells us, in the case of vCJD, that acquisition may have needed no more than one gram of infected beef/beef product ingested randomly. Therefore the immediate family is no more at risk than the rest of the population of the UK, or visitors to these shores.

In view of the above, we would be obliged if you would answer the following simple questions: -

- a) Who, from a vCJD victim's family is banned from donating blood? *unneeded FH of classical*
- b) On what premise is any such ban based? *- only/best people who have been told*
- c) What steps are being taken to adopt a realistic science-based approach to any such bans? *usually 2 parts - have a FH*

We are copying this to Dr Pat Troop, Deputy CMO, as she chairs the committee into the care package support to vCJD victims and their families, which is aimed at reducing unnecessary stress and distress to such families due to vCJD.

Yours sincerely

SAC meets in 2/weeks

Clayd S'cawls

ms guidelines

GRO-C

DI & Mrs D Churchill

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cc: Dr Troop 