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28/01/00



Confidential

Dr Alison Townley
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Bridle Path
Leeds
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Ref:TMER/316/NV

22/09/99

CONFIDENTIAL

To all Senior Medical Staff in England responsible for the TMER

Dear Alison

New variant cases in England

I enclose with this letter the name of a further case of confirmed or strongly suspected nvCJD notified to us by the CJD Surveillance Unit. It has now been agreed that the names of all cases should be checked in all English Centres, just in case any of these individuals have donated blood outside their home region.

In the light of the CPMP recommendation (October 1997) that there should be a recall of batches of blood products if a blood donation to a plasma pool is subsequently found to have been made from a person who developed nvCJD, the NBS has a responsibility to trace the fate of any plasma donated by this individual. Please identify and trace the fate of any previous donations. If plasma from any donation was sent to BPL, please formally notify BPL in writing with the details required to trace the fate of these plasma donations within BPL. Please note on the enclosed form that this action has been taken, and copy to Dr Angela Robinson any BPL notification you have made.

With regard to fresh components, please identify what components were made and to which hospitals they were issued. Please issue TMER2 forms as if this case were part of the blinded study, and do not indicate otherwise to the hospital haematologist. If you have established that there are "in date" components (FFP, cryoprecipitate) which may not yet have been used, please recall such components. The ethical advice to date has been that there should be no attempt to notify recipients, or their treating clinicians, since there is no action which could be taken to establish whether there is any risk to a recipient who has received blood components from this donor.

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Could I stress again the need for confidentiality of these names. When the names are passed to staff within your Centre, for example, to check the donor records, you should not indicate that these individuals are known or suspected of having CJD. There is no need for names to be included in any notification to BPL.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries at all over this matter.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Dr P E Hewitt
Lead Consultant in Transfusion Microbiology

Direct Tel Fax: