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17 October 1986

Dear Alison

**SURROGATE NON-A, NON-B HEPATITIS TESTING OF BLOOD DONATIONS**

I promised to send you Scottish information on this matter.

I now enclose:

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1. A copy of an internal minute of my own dated 12 June, which drew extensively on a Ph.D. by Dr Dow, who is now a member of the SNBTS scientific staff.

2. A copy of a letter dated 4 June from the Director of the Communicable Diseases Centre for Scotland to me, dealing with the relevant "burden of disease".

3. A Special Report by Dr Dow dated May 1986. This Report conveys the main outcome of his thesis, which has not otherwise been fully published. As I mention, this Report is unsuitable for copying, and if access to its material is particularly required, I suggest either that Dr Dow should be invited to attend to discuss the matter with a suitable Committee, or that his (quite bulky) thesis should be consulted, which I think requires the permission of himself or his supervisor.

4. A reprint from Vox Sanguinis. Dr Dow's findings are in part embedded in Dr Mitchell's contribution.

I have no reason to think that Scotland is imminently about to adopt Surrogate testing. I hope that the message south and north of the Tweed will be "research first, action later." Presumably research is quite demanding, and entails finding subjects not previously treated with blood or blood products, showing normal liver function tests, vaccinated against Hepatitis B, and prepared to undergo further tests rather frequently!

I hope these items are of some help to you.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely

DR J M FORRESTER