

2010/00046

Penrose Inquiry  
SNBTS Blood Collection 1975-1991

This is the corporate response to the Questions posed to Professor John Cash, Dr Ruthven Mitchell, Dr Brian McClelland, Dr Ewa Brookes and Dr Robert Perry, under the topic of Hepatitis C and the acceptance of blood from 'higher risk' donors. It is also intended to provide the response to the questions posed by Gregor Mair in his E-Mail of 17 November 2010 to Susan Murray, in direct response to the witness statement on this topic supplied by Dr Brian McClelland.

1. The total amount of blood collected annually from penal institutions by South East, West, East and North East Regional Transfusion Centres in Scotland between 1975 and 1984 is shown in Table 1.
  - The data are presented as number of donations
  - The data were collected and totalled for each year by trawling through donor cards and donor session records, which are stored under the management of each Regional Transfusion Centre.
  - The North of Scotland RTC (Inverness) has no donor card nor donor session records dating from this period, as all records were destroyed in a flood in Craig Dunain Hospital.
  
2. The total amount of blood collected annually by each Regional Transfusion Centre in Scotland between 1975 and 1991 is shown in Table 2.
  - The data are presented as number of donations
  - The total donation figures were taken from a report provided by the SNBTS Microbiology Reference Unit (NMRU) in April 1994 (report attached). This data had been provided to the SNBTS NMRU by Dr David Howell of the

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Colindale Centre of the National Blood Service. Dr Howell had collated the data on HBsAg testing for all UK blood donor testing sites and had provided Dr Brian Dow (of SNBTS NMRU) with the relevant Scottish data. This data (up to 1993) has been used by the SNBTS NMRU for all its annual epidemiological reports (these are always based on calendar years rather than financial years). The data indicate the number of screening tests performed by each of the five SNBTS testing laboratories and represent total donation numbers, including failed or part donations and also those that failed on haemoglobin levels. Therefore the numbers are higher than the number of useable donations (the figures presented in the SNBTS annual reports- based on financial years). The total number of screening tests performed has been estimated to be on average between 5% and 6% higher than the number of useable donations. These figures have been presented, as the useable donation numbers are not available from all regions for this time period, and for consistency a complete set of figures from the same source is presented.

- The total numbers of useable donations from the South East Regional Transfusion Centre (SERTC) are presented in the SERTC's annual reports for this period and have been included in a witness statement by Brian McClelland. Due possibly to the difference between 'calendar year' and 'financial year', the SERTC figures in the SNBTS Microbiology Reference Unit report are the same as the data held by the SERTC, but are one year out of step for the period 1975 to 1982.

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- The extent that prison collection contributed to the total blood donation numbers in the period 1975 to 1984 is shown in Table 2 and the equivalent figures for each region (apart from the North of Scotland Regional Transfusion Centre) are shown in Tables 3-6.
3. The dates when the collection of blood from penal institutions stopped in each region in Scotland is shown in Table 7.
- The dates were found by trawling through donor cards, donor session records and diaries, which are stored under the management of each Regional Transfusion Centre.

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**Table 1: Donations collected at Penal Institutions in each Scottish RTC 1975-1984**

Year	Region				
	West RTC	South East RTC	East RTC	North East RTC	North RTC*
1975	3,532	807	952	624	
1976	501	792	780	560	
1977	1,462	264	886	98	
1978	1,929	151	840	516	
1979	2,516	689	716	450	
1980	1,920	283	770	91	
1981	2,274	203	609	274	
1982	1,526	0	543	287	
1983	2,622	0	322	176	
1984	342	0	0	0	

\* From 1975 to 1983 NRTC visited 1 prison, Inverness (Porterfield) Prison. Donation numbers are not available

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**Table 2: Donations collected in each Scottish RTC 1975-1991**

Year	Total Number of Donations in each region					Total Scottish Donations	Total Prison Donations*	Prison Donations (% Total)
	Edinburgh	Aberdeen	Inverness	Glasgow	Dundee			
1975	59326	23,364	10,482	124,701	30,685	248558	5,915	2.38
1976	62239	27,125	10,632	130,022	32,531	262549	2,633	1.00
1977	69878	29,089	11,505	133,736	33,564	277772	2,710	0.98
1978	75302	29,841	12,697	133,203	32,263	283306	3,436	1.21
1979	77318	30,565	13,701	135,831	32,663	290078	4,371	1.51
1980	75639	32,252	14,033	135,008	32,392	289324	3,064	1.06
1981	74537	33,434	14,388	139,546	31,596	293501	3,360	1.14
1982	73985	34,803	15,256	142,056	31,751	297851	2,356	0.79
1983	74146	34,373	16,226	145,944	31,544	302233	3,120	1.03
1984	81232	33,863	14,539	148,909	30,074	308617	342	0.11
1985	83224	31,183	15,274	147,955	27,278	304914	0	0
1986	84992	32,582	16,163	148,791	27,220	309748	0	0
1987	75839	32,731	15,322	136,477	28,637	289006	0	0
1988	81765	34,023	17,663	148,296	29,038	310785	0	0
1989	88278	34,371	18,812	148,100	32,027	321588	0	0
1990	86869	35,047	20,942	155,534	33,587	331979	0	0
1991	91221	35,980	22,862	173,793	34,503	358359	0	0

\* Excluding Prison Donations from Inverness RTC

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**Table 3: Percentage of total donations collected in penal institutions in Glasgow/ West of Scotland Regional Transfusion Centre**

Year	Total donations	Prison donations	% Prison donation rate
1975	124701	3532	2.83
1976	130022	501	0.39
1977	133736	1462	1.09
1978	133203	1929	1.45
1979	135831	2516	1.85
1980	135008	1920	1.42
1981	139546	2274	1.63
1982	142056	1526	1.07
1983	145944	2622	1.80
1984	148909	342	0.23
1985	147955	0	0.00
1986	148791	0	0.00
1987	136477	0	0.00
1988	148296	0	0.00
1989	148100	0	0.00
1990	155534	0	0.00
1991	173793	0	0.00

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**Table 4: Percentage of total donations collected in penal institutions in Edinburgh/ South East of Scotland Regional Transfusion Centre**

Year	Total donations	Prison donations	% Prison donation rate
1975	59326	807	1.36
1976	62239	792	1.27
1977	69878	264	0.38
1978	75302	151	0.20
1979	77318	689	0.89
1980	75639	283	0.37
1981	74537	203	0.27
1982	73985	0	0.00
1983	74146	0	0.00
1984	81232	0	0.00
1985	83224	0	0.00
1986	84992	0	0.00
1987	75839	0	0.00
1988	81765	0	0.00
1989	88278	0	0.00
1990	86869	0	0.00
1991	91221	0	0.00

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**Table 5: Percentage of donations collected in penal institutions in Dundee/ East of Scotland Regional Transfusion Centre**

Year	Total donations	Prison donations	% Prison donation rate
1975	30685	952	3.10
1976	32531	780	2.40
1977	33564	886	2.64
1978	32263	840	2.60
1979	32663	716	2.19
1980	32392	770	2.38
1981	31596	609	1.93
1982	31751	543	1.71
1983	31544	322	1.02
1984	30074	0	0.00
1985	27278	0	0.00
1986	27220	0	0.00
1987	28637	0	0.00
1988	29038	0	0.00
1989	32027	0	0.00
1990	33587	0	0.00
1991	34503	0	0.00

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**Table 6: Percentage of total donations collected in penal institutions in Aberdeen/ North East of Scotland Regional Transfusion Centre**

Year	Total donations	Prison donations	% Prison donation rate
1975	23364	624	2.67
1976	27125	560	2.06
1977	29089	98	0.34
1978	29841	516	1.73
1979	30565	450	1.47
1980	32252	91	0.28
1981	33434	274	0.82
1982	34803	287	0.82
1983	34373	176	0.51
1984	33863	0	0.00
1985	31183	0	0.00
1986	32582	0	0.00
1987	32731	0	0.00
1988	34023	0	0.00
1989	34371	0	0.00
1990	35047	0	0.00
1991	35980	0	0.00

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**Table 7: Date and Location of Last Prison Donor Sessions in each RTC**

RTC	Date	Location
North East (Aberdeen)	28.07.1983	HMP Peterhead
East (Dundee)	02.08.1983	HMP Perth
South East (Edinburgh)	22.12.1981	HMP Saughton
West (Glasgow)	25.03.1984	Glenochil YOI
North (Inverness)	24.02.1983	Porterfield prison