

Our ref:imf/98/28apr

28 April 1998

Dr A Keel  
Scottish Office  
St Andrews Square  
Edinburgh



740  
07 MAY 1998

Dear Aileen,

Re HCV Lookback

At a recent meeting of the SNBTS Medical and Scientific Committee, we once again reviewed the status of the HCV lookback exercise. Over the past months, progress with this has been virtually static. As you will see on the attached summary sheet prepared by Jack Gillon, we still have a number of patients whom we have been unable to trace and conclude that without additional resources from SOHD, doing so is not going to be possible.

There is also the issue of RIBA indeterminates. As you will know, the SNBTS confirmatory test algorithm for HCV has always included PCR. The NBA protocol did not have PCR and so they proposed that the lookback be extended to RIBA indeterminates. We have now followed up over half of our indeterminate cases (20 of 37). All have remained PCR negative and all recipients of their donations traced and tested have been PCR negative. The remainder that require following up are in the West of Scotland and once again without additional resources I do not think that we are going to be able to trace these.

It is therefore the view of the SNBTS MSC that the current HCV lookback should be considered to be closed unless, of course, SOHD feel that it should resource one final effort to conclude every possible case. ||

Obviously we will continue to investigate any new sero conversions in donors or recipients as these come to light.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Professor Ian M Franklin  
National Medical & Scientific Director

Enc. JG Notes  
cc MB

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