

NOJ 1/2 Pt 2 (58)

Dr Scott

Dr McCreadie had a quick look at this letter from Dr Wallace on Friday before he went on leave. His comments are attached.

While he was commenting I prepared a draft reply to Dr Wallace which it transpires takes a similar line to Dr McCreadie minute. The question however is whether we are adopting the correct line. I do not like what I consider to be the professional blackmail in the last paragraph of Dr Wallace's letter. (Dr Wallace has expressed displeasure about [redacted] writing to his defence union on the subject of computers in blood transfusion.)

Dr Wallace has been involved in the problems of hepatitis right from the beginning and knows that the problem is complex and that hepatitis B is only the tip of the ice-berg. If we accede to his request for additional money so that he can continue RIA then we are saying that this is such a preferable method that we considered the additional expenditure is justified. This leaves us in a difficult situation as regard the other centres. It may be that we could argue that they do not have the equipment necessary and therefore further additional costs over and above the reagent would be involved. Should a case of hepatitis B arise in any of these other regions however it could be construed that by implication we were adopting in these regions a less sensitive testing method.

As far as the enzyme immunoassay is concerned I cannot see how we can approve this method without some official body having approved it.

*Ad McIntyre*

A D McINTYRE  
28 June 1976

*D. R. Inglis*

*I have suggested a few minor amendments leaving out "the present financial climate" - we should rest on the Maycock report which took into account standards & cost. They know that RIA has marginally more sensitivity but that cost is considerable as a routine. - I was a member & therefore a signatory to the report.*

*You should check with Mr. Wilson & copies must go to CSA & BTJ HQ.*

*Stuart*  
29/6

*Mr. [unclear] / [unclear] for letting us see these papers - Dr Scott mentioned this to me earlier today*

*I would support the report in the light of the Royal Society and present recommendations, we should be careful with the report*  
*[Signature]*