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## SCOTTISH HOME AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

St Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DE

Telephone 031-556 8501 ext

6 August 1985 N.

To Chief Administrative Medical Officers Copy for Information to: Director Scottish Blood Transfusion Service Regional Directors. SNBTS

Dear Doctor

LABORATORY TESTING FOR HTLV III ANTIBODY

The commercially available test kits for the detection of HTLV III antibody have been evaluated by a panel of experts from the Public Health Laboratory Service on behalf of DHSS. A summary of the results is attached. A more detailed account of the PHIS evaluation will be available on request from mid-August.

Laboratory facilities to confirm any test found positive are available at:-

Clinical Virology Laboratory Department of Bacteriology University Medical School Teviot Place Edinburgh EH8 9AG

and

Regional Virus Laboratory Ruchill Hospital 520 Bilsland Drive Clasgow G20 9NB

Any queries relating to this letter should be directed to Dr A D McIntyre Room 20, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh (031 556 8501 Extn. 2597 or 2509).

This information should be brought to the attention of the appropriate staff.

Yours sincerely

G A SCOTT Deputy Chief Medical Officer