

## Glasgow and West of Scotland BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

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REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
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JW/DL

5th March, 1975.

Dr. A.D. McIntyre,  
Scottish Home & Health Department,  
St. Andrew's House,  
Edinburgh,  
EH2 3DE.

Dear Dr. McIntyre,

Advisory Group on Hepatitis

I thought you would like to have a brief report on relevant matters concerning the recent meeting of the Advisory Group. I am hoping that we have now finalised the report. Mr. Jackson of DHSS will be rewriting the report in the light of our recent discussions. He hopes to circulate the amended report within the next two weeks.

You will be glad to learn that the section on reference centres in Scotland has been amended to meet our points of criticism. It was also agreed that appendix 1 concerning the report of the Sub-committee on donors with a high incidence of antigenaemia should be removed from the final report. There was very little discussion on this point since it was obvious that the subject was outwith our terms of reference. I understand that DHSS will be taking appropriate action within England and Wales on the recommendations of the Sub-committee. This includes the use of RPH as the method of screening all donations.

You will also be interested to learn that there was considerable discussion on HBsAg positive individuals both within and outside regional transfusion centres and about antigen positive donors. Neither Professor Marmion nor I raised this subject, but we were glad that it had been raised. Not unexpectedly the discussion had a high emotional content. It was eventually agreed that any reference to dentists should be removed from the standard letters to donors and to General Practitioners. The section on antigen positive individuals working in transfusion centres has been watered down.

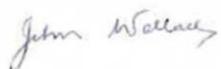
In this connection Mr. Jackson was at pains to point out that we might have to justify the alterations. He pointed out that questions might be raised within DHSS and by professional organisations as to why we had removed some of the recommendations which appeared in the earlier report. However the majority of the members felt that the amendments should/..

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should be made and that we would answer questions if and when they are raised.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Wallace".

Regional Director