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## SCOTTISH NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

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IN CONFIDENCE

MC/MM

15 September 1988

✓ Professor Cash  
Mr J Francis  
Dr W Whitrow  
Dr S J Urbaniak  
Dr E Brookes  
Dr D B L McClelland  
Dr R Mitchell  
Dr R J Perry  
Dr W M McClelland  
Dr W Wagstaff  
Dr H H Gunson  
Dr J M Forrester  
Mr R Panton

Dear Colleague

DIRECTORS' MEETING 27 SEPTEMBER 1988

The next SNBTS Directors' Meeting will be held in HQ Unit at 10.45 on Tuesday 27 September 1988.

If you require transport within Edinburgh please let me know by 26 September using the enclosed request form.

Yours sincerely

*Lenap*

Miss M Corrie

BUSINESS

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Dr Gunson is congratulated on his new appointment. It is hoped to introduce Mr R Panton who has replaced Tom Macdonald. Dr Mitchell is unable to attend and his comments are welcomed in writing or by telephone to Miss Corrie.

*Dr Gunson apologies*

*Dr Forrester retired (unknown to us)*

*Dr Corrie*

# PLEASE GIVE BLOOD

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 June 1988 were circulated and the following comments have been received:

3e(iii) Donation testing for NANB: The comments refer to this sentence:- 'It was believed that the Birmingham Centre was about to begin ALT and anti-core testing routinely'.

"I would be interested to know whether Dr Wagstaff confirms that he made the statement in the last sentence of 3e(iii). I do not recall it".  
(Dr Forrester)

"The information regarding the tri-centre trial is certainly correct, but I am not sure that the unilateral testing for ALT and anti-core by the West Midlands RTC was discussed at all at this meeting. In all fairness, I think the last sentence in this paragraph should be deleted."  
(Dr Wagstaff)

Professor Cash recommends the following substitute sentence:

Dr Cash reported (following discussion with Dr Ala) that it was the intention of the Birmingham RTC to begin ALT and anti-core testing routinely *within the next months.*

5. MLSO restructuring proposals: In the phrase "from typed definitions" in paragraph 3 the second word should be "tight".

3. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Development with the Private Sector (3a)

Mr Panton and Dr Forrester to report the situation about Clydebank Hospital. — Mtg now arranged 14/10/88 @ SHHS..

- (b) AIDS (3b)

The following items concern HIV 2:

i. Need for uniform advice on microbiological testing: Professor Cash and Dr Wagstaff to report the result of their discussions on the need for uniform advice on microbiological testing throughout the UK.

ii. Scottish recommendations: To note the attached letter from Professor Cash to the Scottish Directors enclosing recommendations about HIV 2 testing in Scotland.

iii. To note the attached letter dated 23 August 1988 from Dr Gunson to all Regional Transfusion Directors notifying further countries concerned in HIV 2.

*DHSS.*  
*? Contact of Consumer Protection Act*  
*? Supt. Law*

(c) Transfusion Medical Handbook (3c)

Dr McClelland reports that he will be sending copies to the NBTS/SNBTS Directors shortly for final comment. The other action agreed at the last meeting will follow.

(d) Scottish BMA/BTS Forum

A preliminary draft report from the Working Party on Transfusion, HIV Infection, and the use of Blood Products in Scotland was received by Professor Cash from Dr Vallance-Owen, Scottish secretary of the BMA. Professor Cash submitted comments on this report and it is hoped that a revised document will be available for comment by SNBTS Directors in the near future. Dr Perry will report from the Forum.

*Revised report now to hand  
Co GP November mtg* →

(e) Donation Testing for NANB (3e)

i. Surrogate testing:

\* Anti-core: Proposals from the Microbiological Validation Group will be circulated. *(not yet available)*

\* ALT technology: The Chairman of the Microbiological Validation Group, Dr Cuthbertson, has circulated a full report. A copy is attached.

\* Current position in England & Wales: Dr Wagstaff to report on draft proposals from the NIBSC/UK BTS Working Party.

ii Specific antibody testing:

Chiron/Ortho Diagnostic ELISA test: Professor Cash's letter to Ortho Diagnostic Systems Ltd on this subject dated 5 July 1988 is attached, along with their response of 19 July 1988.

*Microchem.*

(f) Product Liability and Product Licensing (3f)

i. SHHD policy: Dr Forrester to report.

ii. Proposal for an EEC Directive: Professor Cash has circulated to the Scottish Directors this proposal concerning commonality by 1991 in medicinal products derived from human blood.

(g) Blood Supplies to Greater London (3g)

It was decided at the last meeting the Directors would consider this at a Co-ordinating Group. They did so, and decided not to discuss the subject again until Professor Cash received from the SHHD a reply to his request to retain any income which might be received from blood sent to London. Mr Panton is requested to comment.

① ready to go  
② when - await  
PES proposals.  
③ ? NBTS  
④ ? get Costing?

? NBTS has  
commented.

✓ (h) Unrelated Bone Marrow Transplantation (3i)

This subject was discussed previously under the title 'British Bone Marrow Donor Appeal'.

A copy is enclosed of proposals made by Professor Cash to, and accepted by, the Scottish Directors, who are awaiting a reply from Dr Robert Crawford to the invitation to represent the BTS. Dr Mitchell has agreed that the West Scotland Centre should be the centre of responsibility.

R.M.'s  
letter  
£3,000!

✓ (i) MLSO Restructuring — MC

*Emergency Whitley Proposal*  
i. General: The management side offer is under consideration by the staff side who will commence their consultations on 16 September. They expect these to take around four weeks to complete.

ii. Scottish Principal and Senior Chief MLSO proposals: A paper will be circulated comparing the Whitley Council proposals with those made recently by the Scottish Principal/Senior Chief MLSO Group.

iii. Out-of-hours working: To note that management side proposals have been received and are with SNBTS Directors for comment. An abstract of these comments will be circulated if the information is available in time.

✓ (j) Commercial Blood Products (6)

To note that the General Manager has recently asked Health Boards about their 1987-88 purchases and replies are awaited. To note also that certain newspapers have reported anticipated spends on Factor VIII in the current year from two Health Boards of £350,000.

✓ k. Release of Untested Plasma (7)

The current position will be reported. A copy of Mr Macniven's letter dated 29 April 1988 to Professor Cash is attached.

✓ 4. THE FUTURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF UK POLICY DECISIONS WITH REGARD TO MICROBIOLOGY BLOOD DONATION TESTING

Professor Cash advises that he understands (through discussion with Dr Hilary Pickles) that the Department of Health are moving to establish a UK Group, the chairman of which would be Dr Ed Harris. Professor Cash has suggested to the SHHD that Dr Urbaniak and Dr Follett should be the Scottish representatives.

Dr Forrester is invited to provide an update.

✓ 5. NBTS DIRECTORS' MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 1988 are held up due to postal strike.

— came in 26/9/88 - copy tabled for

everyone else - yours & papers,

6. NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN ENGLAND & WALES

Dr Gunson is invited to explain the new arrangements. ✓

✓ 7. COMMENTS ON THE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN THE SUPPLY OF FACTOR VIII FOR THE SCOTTISH HEALTH SERVICE BY THE SNBTS AND PROPOSALS FOR RE-ASSERTION OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY

The above document (which has the support in principle of the Scottish Directors) was lodged on 29 July 1988 with CSA and SHHD and a response is awaited. Mr Panton and Dr Forrester to report.

→ Attached for attention is a letter from Dr Brenda Gibson, Consultant Haematologist at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow. ←

✓ 8. CURRENT DONOR CAMPAIGN

Directors are invited to comment on the action being taken currently.

● 9. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- BMcC <sup>249 Fax</sup> ~~note~~ - see below \*

10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 13 December 1988.

\* SNBTS Policy on the Introduction of Wellcome Recombinant H1A Ab assay.

There is a need for a meeting of the Microbiological QA group to make recommendations to Directors.