



Glasgow and West of Scotland Blood Transfusion Service

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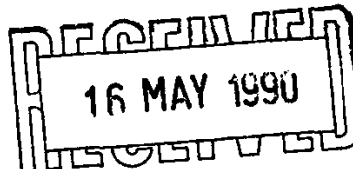
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Please reply to

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RM/GQ

14 May 1990



Professor JD Cash
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Dear John

HCV LOOK-BACK

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Thank you for giving me a copy of your letter to Harold Gunson of 1 May. As I explained at the recent Directors' (PES Meeting), Bob Crawford has been wrestling with this problem for some time. Inevitably in a large region there will be reports of alleged non-A, non-B hepatitis transmission. These are confirmable at Regional Reference Centres who are financed to undertake these tests.

Where alleged non-A, non-B transmission has occurred and is notified to the Regional Transfusion Centres, the problem is, should the BTS have a look-back policy so as to identify donors who may have transmitted the disease or should we not? I was glad to have a short talk with you recently about this problem and, as you know, I mentioned it at the National Advisory Committee on the Virological Safety of Blood when we met on 24 April.

I have advised Bob Crawford at the present time that we have no look-back policy, although you will understand that in doing so, the service could be considered to be negligent in not advising about potential future use of donor blood.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Director

cc Dr H Gunson
Scottish Directors

5