



## Glasgow and West of Scotland Blood Transfusion Service

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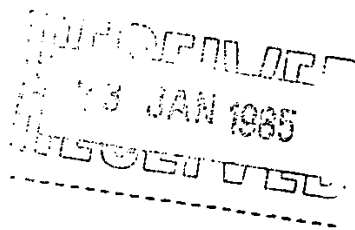
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Please Reply to: **CARLUKE**

RM/JL

21 January 1985

Dr J D Cash  
National Medical Director  
SNBTS  
Headquarters Unit  
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EDINBURGH



Dear John

#### HTLV-III ANTIBODY POSITIVE DONORS FOLLOW-UP

*attached*

Thank you for your letter of 15 January. I think you and I must have had a 'process of thought transfer'. I had a visit from Abbott Laboratories last week, shortly after they visited you in Edinburgh. Their meeting with us was with a view to starting some evaluation of the Abbott ELISA test system.

Before starting the testing, there are one or two points which require clarification. I have tried to telephone you on a number of occasions last week and, of course, had it in my mind to talk to you at the Neonatal Transfusion Group Meeting and the Computer Meeting later in the week. Unfortunately, none of these proved fruitful.

I do not know if you have seen the MMWR for January 11. If not, I enclose a copy for easy reference concerning provisional Public Health Service recommendations for screening donated blood and plasma for the virus associated with AIDS. Perhaps this should be circulated to Directors before you put it on the Agenda at the next RTD Meeting.

*in basket today here PF!*

Concerning the Abbott testing system, which was discussed with Miss Sparrow and yourself last week, I have been asked to write a letter to Abbotts along the lines of the enclosed document from them. This apparently is to satisfy the FDA requirement.

You will see that there is also a proposal to code all of the samples which may be tested, so as to make them a true blind analysis. In addition, there is required a statement that the study is approved by the Ethics Review Board.

CONTINUATION

21 January 1985

Dr J D Cash

Since the SNB TS does not have an Ethics Review Board, I wonder if the best approach would be to go through the SNBTA Ethics Committee? The only problem is I understand that Professor Ronald Girdwood is presently in Hong Kong, and it may not be possible to obtain the necessary approval within the time scale envisaged by Abbotts, which is that they would hope to have the study completed by the end of March 1985.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

*Rennie*

Director

Enc

*P.S. This conforms our conversation today (21/1/85).*