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21 June 1994

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SNBTS NRU CORRESPONDENCE - IN	
Date Rec'd:	03.6.94
Action:	
File No:	

Dear Colleague

HCV-LOOK BACK PROGRAMME

I thought it might be helpful to clarify the position - at 20 June 1994 - after the unusual events following our last MSC meeting.

There are likely to be three evolving approaches designed to provided the now necessary SOHHD approval for the SNBTS to commence a formal 'nation-wide' HCV Look Back programme. These approaches can be summarised as follows:-

1. Advisory Committee on Transfusion Transmitted Diseases (UK BTS Red Book Committee)

You will recall that this Committee, which contributes (through the MSBT) advice to all relevant Ministers, has been considering HCV Look Back for some time. As a consequence of recent events in Scotland and the position adopted by NBA (that the NBA will not move to consider establishing an HCV Look Back programme until it receives advice from ACTTI, the ACTTI Chairman (Dr F D Ala) will convene an extra-ordinary meeting to consider this topic as soon as possible.

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2. SNBTS DONOR CONSULTANTS' GROUP

George Galea has kindly agreed that this Group will act as the focus for an emerging draft SNBTS operational plan which, in due course, will be submitted to the MSC for approval and thence via David McIntosh hopefully to SOHHD. It would be my intention to attend these meetings in order to provide the best possible communication between the Service and ACTTI.

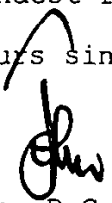
3. CONSULTATION WITH SHS HEPATOLOGISTS

I believe it is operationally important, and in patients' interests, that we (SNBTS) consult with senior (SHS) hepatologists on this topic. I'm certain that even across Scotland this will enhance our ability to achieve an orderly and optimal approach. The plan would be to acquire as much advice as possible with regard to the practical consequences of an HCV look back programme.

I hope this summary is of assistance.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely

  
John D Cash  
National Medical & Scientific Director

cc D McIntosh  
M Bruce (MSC Secretary)  
Dr A Keel SOHHD  
Mr R Panton SOHHD