Mr Angus

710
15.5.87

1. Dr Forrester 25
Does that imply an abandonment also of SNBTS's aspirations to carry out non-A, non B testing? The opposite: see ⊛. JMF
2. Mr Murray.
18/5
15.5
14 May 87.

Dr McIntyre

Copy to: Dr Scott
Mr Macniven

SCOTTISH COMPONENT OF RESEARCH INTO NON-A, NON-B HEPATITIS AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICES

You will recall that we are under pressure to spend some £800K annually on screening all blood donations in an indirect way, in the hope of some reduction in transmission of this group of diseases. The research project that is planned had a one-quarter Scottish component. This was to be directed by Dr Gillon in Edinburgh BTS.

After preliminary interchanges with CSO about funds, I provided Dr Gillon with application documents and advised him to discuss matters with Dr W Forbes, which he has done. The closing date for a CSO application is 15 May.

The outcome of Dr Gillon's discussions is that the Scottish component is being abandoned. I imagine that his Director, Dr McClelland, is unlikely to press it, since his current view is that we had better simply institute screening. I understand that he will inform Dr Gunson, so that English BTS will know.

The English have, I believe, a fair wind from DHSS Research Management in relation to funds. But the statistics of the project were based on a Scottish component, and I fear that the study will have actually to be enlarged in England to secure the required validity.

John Forrester

DR J M FORRESTER
14 May 1987

Room 25
SAH