SNBTS DOCUMENT REQUEST No:

2010/00008

Penrose Inquiry – Victor Tamburrini – SPPS Batch number 1194

Information sought

"With regard to Mr Tamburrini, we have a further question about the plasma used to treat him in September 1984. He was treated with Stable Plasma Protein Solution, batch number 1194. It has been suggested as a possible source of his Hepatitis C infection. We wondered if the SNBTS have a record of any other patients treated with Batch 1194. If so, is there any record of whether or not they contracted Hepatitis C?"

'Is it possible that bottles within this batch were re-numbered outwith the SNBTS.'
(Janet Marsh, PI)

Response

SNBTS Plasma Protein Solution (SPPS) batch number 1194 contained 468 units (bottles) and was placed at issue on 11.08.1983. 20 bottles were issued to Northern Ireland BTS on 7.12 1983 and the remaining 448 bottles were issued to Glasgow RTC (Law Hospital) on 30.04.1984. In both regions the Regional Transfusion Centre then distributed the products to the blood banks within the hospitals in their region, which then distributed the products as required.

The SNBTS does not have any records of the patients to whom albumin products are infused. This information is recorded on individual patient records. The dose of SPPS given varies very widely between patients, depending on the treatment indication, with some patients receiving 1-2 bottles and some receiving 5-8 bottles. However it can be assumed that over 100 patients will have received this batch of SPPS in the West of Scotland and in Northern Ireland and, as stated in the original SNBTS paper, the SNBTS has no record of any patient being infected through the use of SPPS, whether batch 1194 or any other batch. See appended statement by Dr Jacqueline Barry (SNBTS Pharmacovigilance Manager).

All bottles of SPPS within one batch are marked with the same number (the batch number) and, as far as the SNBTS is aware, there would be no requirement for blood banks within hospitals to renumber the bottles.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed.....

Dated.....4.....March.....2011.....

Formal Review of Adverse event reports for SNBTS Albumin Products

A formal review of the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service Pharmacovigilance files has been performed.

SNBTS have received 42 reports of Albumin product (Human Albumin 4.5%, Human Albumin 20% and SPPS) associated adverse reactions, spanning the years 1975 to 2003. None of these adverse events were related to any infectious episodes and to confirm SNBTS have received no reports of a transmission of any infectious disease associated with the use of Albumin or SPPS.

Jacqueline Barry
11/02/2011