VIROLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE SAFETY OF BLOOD PRODUCTS

February 7, 1986

10 a.m.

10.00 Coffee

10.30 Welcome

(NIBSC)

10.35 Update on human T-lymphotropic retroviruses
(Institute of Cancer Research)

11.00 Inactivation of viruses

a) General considerations
   (NIBSC)

b) Inactivation of LAV/HTLV III viruses
   (NIBSC)

11.20 Fate of LAV/HTLV III virus during plasma fractionation and

   (PPC, Edinburgh)

11.40 Clinical and epidemiological aspects of the safety of blood

   products in relation to LAV/HTLV III and NANB hepatitis

   a) Immunoglobulins
      (NIBSC)
      (CRC)

   b) Blood clotting factor concentrates
      (Glasgow)
      (PHLS, Manchester)

12.30 LUNCH
1.30 Detection of antibodies to LAV/HTLV III virus  
   (PHLS, Colindale)  
   (Middlesex Hospital)

2.00 Confirmatory testing by immunoblotting  
   (NIBSC)

2.15 National experience of testing for LAV/HTLV III antibodies  
   in the NBTs  
   (Manchester BTS)

2.30 General discussion of some outstanding questions  
   (introduced by )

1. Screening of blood donors
   a) Are high-risk donors being excluded?
   b) Are the LAV/HTLV III test-kits sufficiently sensitive  
      and specific?

2. Removal or inactivation of viruses
   a) Does each manufacturer need to demonstrate that his  
      fractionation process removes contaminating viruses?
   b) During Cohn fractionation, are additional steps needed to  
      remove or inactivate viruses?

3. Testing of final products
   a) To what extent does testing of final products contribute  
      to safety?
   b) Should products that are LAV/HTLV III positive by immuno-  
      blotted be released for clinical use?

4. Prospects Are routine sensitive test methods for detecting  
   LAV/HTLV III and NANB hepatitis viruses likely to be  
   available in the foreseeable future?

3.30 TFA
Participants

Blood Products Division, NIBSC

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