



## Blood and Transplant

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Colindale  
NW9 5BG

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request-591152-c24b341f@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: MOC/376986

Dear M Byrne

### **Re: Information request**

Thank you for your request dated 20 July 2019 for information from NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) regarding the Infected Blood Inquiry.

I am writing to advise you that we can provide you with the following information in relation to your request.

### **What method was used to trace whole blood bags contaminated with Viral Hepatitis (non A non B, B & C as it is now known) in 1980's. E.g. By Donor number?**

The information you have requested forms part of the Terms of Reference for the Infected Blood Inquiry. The Inquiry team have requested hundreds of thousands of documents from multiple organisations in order to establish the truth about infected blood. In the interests of transparency, the Inquiry team have been given full access to NHSBT's complete archives as part of their investigations.

For this reason, the information you have requested is withheld under Section 22(1) of the Freedom of Information Act – information held with a view to its future publication, (a) The information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not).

NHSBT currently has circa ninety thousand boxes from its predecessor organisations held in archive storage. Files contained in these boxes may hold information relevant to your request. However, if relevant information is held NHSBT does not know exactly which boxes it is contained in and would have to review the contents of every box in order to establish this.

In addition, by releasing information in this way NHSBT would be both duplicating and pre-empting the work of the Inquiry team. Information held by NHSBT should be considered in conjunction with relevant information held by other organisations.

I hope this is helpful in addressing your questions. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



Wayne Lawley  
**Head of Corporate Communications**

E-mail: [customer.services@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:customer.services@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Customer Services Operations Manager, NHS Blood and Transplant, Charcot Road, Colindale, NW9 5BG (Email: [customer.services@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:customer.services@nhsbt.nhs.uk)).

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT). The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.