

HS1

## USE OF BLOOD FROM PRISONS

1. At a recent meeting of Medicines Division's Inspection Action Group concern was expressed about the collection and use of blood from borstal institutions and prisons. Blood Transfusions Centres in Scotland were making use of these sources (particularly prisons) and some, at least, of the English Blood Transfusions Centres were also understood to do so.
2. The Group considered this practice to be highly questionable because of the incidence of homosexuals and homosexual activity in prisons and the present unease about the incidence of AIDS among this group of people.
3. The Group asked to be advised of Departmental policy on the practice of collecting and using blood from borstals and prisons and I shall be grateful if you will let me have a note about this which I can pass on.
4. One further point, is this something which might usefully be referred to in the proposed revision of the Red Guide?

MB2

27 July 1983

Copies:

Please comment  
with  
and reply direct  
on my behalf.

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