

File No:

Correction Coalition
C/O Mr Peter Sutherland
Director Softlaw Community Projects
PO Box 442
Civic Square, ACT 2608

Dear Mr Sutherland

I am writing to provide you with some of the results of the fifth report for blood borne viruses and sexually transmitted infections at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). All medical files for detainees resident at the AMC at midnight of 30 June 2010 were reviewed.

The key findings are:

- not a single detainee has tested positive for human immunodeficiency virus;
- of those detainees tested, 53% of male detainees had screened positive for hepatitis C antibodies, and 67% of female detainees had screened positive for hepatitis C antibodies;
- three hepatitis C seroconversions were identified, but each was for a client who spent time both in the community and in custody through the 'window period'. Each client has been referred to the specialist hepatitis treatment service, for clinical assessment; and
- 83% of screened detainees have demonstrated immunity to hepatitis B.

I anticipate being able to continue to send similar reports to you every three months throughout the 18 month evaluation process that the ACT Government has embarked upon.

Should you require further assistance in this matter, please contact my office in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peggy Brown
Chief Executive

9 August 2010