

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD DOCUMENT

The study was reviewed and approved by the Lothian Research ethics Committee

This study has recruited in 1997 and 1998. Unfortunately all the documents related to the approval of this study by the Lothian Research Ethics committee are unobtainable. The Committee at its then formed is now dissolved and we have requested copies of the documentation from the archives of the new body. Unfortunately at this point it will take too long to retrieve them. The same applies to Informed consent documentation. We declare that the study has been approved and informed consent has been obtained.

On the basis of the above we would like to request exemption of our study from supplying the ethics approval at this present time

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Dabos', with a small dot at the end.

Konstantinos J Dabos, MD, PhD, DGM