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28 March 1983

Dear

A I D S

I think it would be advisable to consider, at a meeting of the CSM(B), the problem of AIDS in relation to licensed blood products. At such a meeting it would be extremely helpful to secure the advice of [redacted] who acts as Chairman of the Haemophilia Unit Directors' group. I gather that there would be no difficulty in asking him along to a meeting (except that of his availability) since he would be advising on a general problem and would not act as a member of the sub-committee. Additionally, it would be helpful to have the latest information on the surveillance of this condition in the UK. This is being undertaken by the CDSC at Colindale. Possibly [redacted] could be asked to provide the up-to-date picture, but if he is unwilling or unable to do this it would then be useful if [redacted] could be asked to attend. ✓

Attached are letters recently released by FDA, on or about the 17th March 1983. You will see that the US are taking steps to avoid the use of blood from high risk groups in the preparation of certain blood products.

Would you find it possible to prepare a brief paper on which the discussion might be based? The letter from the Office of Biologics to the licensed manufacturers of plasma derivatives could also be circulated, together possibly with a note that [redacted] unit might be prevailed upon to prepare.

We have of course talked about this previously, so that the suggestions given in this letter are familiar to you, but I would be glad to discuss any problems over the 'phone. It will be necessary to decide which date we should use, and if you want me to write to Arthur or Spence just say the word.

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely

DESS, Medicines Division
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Enclosures