

H.L. CC: [unclear]



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Your reference
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SUPRA-REGIONAL SERVICES: HAEMOPHILIA REFERENCE CENTRES, POISONS UNITS

... passed on the request in your letter of the 3 July for information about similar services for haemophilia available in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. I subsequently spoke to you about the detail of the information that you required. I am sorry it has taken so long to provide you with an answer.

I should first point out that neither Scotland nor Northern Ireland need to buy commercial blood products with which to treat their haemophiliac patients. Sufficient blood products are produced for the two countries at the Blood Products Laboratory at Liberton. This of course reduces quite considerably their treatment cost. England and Wales are dependant on commercial sources for up to sixty per cent of their Factor VIII.

Scotland has two Haemophilia Centres which perhaps are regarded more as centres of excellence than Reference Centres. One is in Edinburgh and the other in Glasgow. Both these centres (and the other three centres in Scotland) are funded by the Area Boards. There is no direct funding from SHHD. The estimated number of haemophiliac patients varying from severe to mild in Scotland is about four hundred.

In Wales there is one Haemophilia Reference Centre in Cardiff and three other centres. The Reference Centre at Cardiff deals predominantly with Welsh patients sixty per cent of whom come from adjoining districts and fifteen per cent from other districts in Wales. The Reference Centre is not an identified Regional Service and is funded

through the District. The District can make bids to Welsh Office for additional central funding as can any other District for their services of a special nature. Three hundred and fifty patients are registered at the Cardiff centre, about a hundred and twenty of these are severely affected cases.

In Northern Ireland there is one haemophilia centre which serves the whole country. This again is funded through the area not through central funds. I hope that this is sufficient information for your needs. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any other points which might be helpful.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely
