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Your reference

Our reference

Date

12 January 1987

Dear Mr Brunning,

CENTRAL BLOOD LABORATORIES AUTHORITY: CLINICAL TRIALS OF FACTOR VIIIY.

Thank you for your letter of today's date to Mrs Wiseman; she passed it over to me since the CBLA falls more appropriately within my responsibility.

Since you stressed the urgency of this case, I have to say that on reading your letter, I am not persuaded of the similarity between Factor VIII treatment and whooping cough vaccination when it comes to a question of compensation for volunteers. In the case of whooping cough, one is concerned with the permanent side-effects which might be suffered by a previously healthy individual volunteering for vaccination. From my discussion with SHHD of the circumstances leading to the request for compensation arrangements for those treated with Factor VIII, I understand that in fact whilst any side effects which might be experienced would probably involve some discomfort, there is no likelihood of any permanent damage. Nor would the patients be volunteers, since by the very nature of the disease, an otherwise healthy person would have no need of the treatment.

Also, as a lay person, I am not clear on the difference between the clinical trials now proposed and those which must presumably have been carried out with heat-treated Factor VIII in the past and without compensation. I should be grateful if you would let me have some further information to explain precisely how what is now proposed represents a departure from previous arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

MISS Z EVEREST-PHILLIPS