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BRITISH SOCIETY FOR HAEMOSTASIS AND THROMBOSIS - SPRING MEETING

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HEAT TREATED NHS FACTOR VIII CONCENTRATE (HTNHS) IN THE UNITED KINGDOM - A PRELIMINARY STUDY.

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Routine NHS concentrate (RNHS) from BPL has been shown to transmit non A non B hepatitis to almost all patients not previously exposed to virus by treatment with large pool concentrates and recent reports have also demonstrated the transmission of HTLV III virus in this way.

A new product has been prepared at PFL by heating freeze dried concentrate at 60°C for 72 hours. This material also differs from RNHS in being derived by plasmapheresis from smaller pools (300-600 donations) than RNHS (1500-7200 donations). Only minor changes in the properties of the concentrate were evident after heating.

A prospective study of the effects of HTNHS on three surgical patients has been performed. Two patients have mild haemophilia A while one is a highly lyonised haemophilia carrier and none has previously received large pool concentrates.

Each subject has been given a single separate batch of HTNHS with total doses of 28,000, 21,000 and 30,000 and has been followed up for 1 year, six months and two months respectively (Jan 85). Recovery half life and clinical effect have been normal and there have been no immediate side effects. No clinical attacks of hepatitis have been recorded and to date there has been no serological evidence of hepatitis A or B, CMV or HTLV III infection. Liver function tests show slight elevations of hepatic enzymes in the early post operative period in each case but there has been no evidence of non A non B hepatitis.

The significance of these findings will be discussed.

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