

EDINBURGH AND SOUTH-EAST SCOTLAND REGIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

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27 June 1986

Dr J D Cash
National Medical Director
SNBTS Headquarters Unit
Ellen's Glen Road
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Dear John

Re: "TRIALS" OF FACTOR VIII PRODUCTS

I have again spoken to Christopher Ludlam who continues to assert his willingness to participate in studies of new factor VIII materials for patients, both virgin and multi-transfused.

Apparently a few weeks ago he was asking Brian McClelland if VIIIY could be made available in the event of a "virgin" haemophiliac being presented. He tells me that he would be happy to treat such patients with a product prepared by the SNBTS that has been subjected to an "equivalent" heat-treatment regime.

I have also spoken by telephone with Eric Preston who also expresses interest in using SNBTS products for patients who may present. However, Eric tells me that he has, in conjunction with Dr Peter Kernoff at the Royal Free, expressed a lot of concern about specific protocol details. In particular he would wish to be very clear about the definition of a "virgin" haemophiliac. For example patients have been called "virgin" when they have received blood product, although perhaps not in the recent past - up to 3 years. Could you let me know what you feel a suitable definition of a virgin patient would be.

Let me repeat what I have said at the meeting on Monday - it is my experience that although one can contact various Haemophilia Directors and elicit an enthusiastic response, the actual process of getting trials underway, particularly for studies into hepatitis transmission from previously untreated patients etc, represents a very large task indeed. However I am glad to see that the next version of heat-

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treated material is nearer to coming on stream. When I get a clear intimation of a date for such a product, I would then be very happy to step up the campaign to get it infused into people.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely



F E BOULTON
Deputy Director