

Doubeles Jun mil der The Society

Haemophilia

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DGW/JC

6 July 1988

I S Macdonald, MD DPH, FFCM, DOBST, RCOG, FRCP(ED) Chief Medical Officer Scottish Home & Health Department St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DE

Dear Dr Macdonald

I am concerned to learn from people with haemophilia in Scotland that there appears to be a shortage of home-produced factor VIII and that the shortage is likely to be ongoing and that it will affect the availability of treatment for people with haemophilia.

While I am aware that there is an international shortage of factor VIII, unrelated to the Scottish situation, I am nonetheless anxious to know, officially, the reasons for the shortage in view of Scotland's track record in self-sufficiency.

I am copying this letter to the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, Since I am deeply concerned that patients in Scotland in a very much worse situation than those south of the Border on account of the shortage.

I would be only too happy to discuss the many issues involved with you or a member of your staff.

Yours sincerely

David G Watters General Secretar