

Our ref : NP/MD

12th February 1985

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Dear Director,

ALLOCATION OF HEAT-TREATED (HT) FACTOR VIII

It has now been agreed by the Central Blood Laboratories Authority that HT Factor VIII will be distributed to named haemophilia centre directors via Regional Transfusion Centres. Each consignment to an RTC will comprise individual packages identified for onward transmission to the named physicians within your Region. The first dispatches of concentrate are to be expected in late February and then subsequently at monthly intervals.

In the last week, safety and efficacy trials on HT-Factor VIII, prepared at BPL, have begun in several Haemophilia Centres. These will be completed shortly after which a wider distribution of product will be made. Haemophilia centres are supplying the names of patients to be treated with the heated concentrate, so that issue of the HT product can be made in the most effective way.

The CBLA has also been advised by Regions that allocations should be made pro-rata to plasma input. Therefore, the allocations in the previously supplied pro-rata issue sheet for January-June 1985 (non HT product), will be used. However, as supply of HT-Factor VIII is limited until April, we are only able to supply 50% of the monthly allocation. Your allocation is therefore vials per month. Note also that the heat-treatment process has reduced the activity per vial to 160-200 iu, with an average of around 185 iu per vial.

In order to relate the named patient issue to RTC distribution, would you urgently supply me with a list of the haemophilia centres normally supplied by you. Once this information is received, packaging of HT-Factor VIII for a February allocation can begin.

In spite of all other reports, prior to April, BPL will be able to maintain a supply of HT Factor VIII at a level between 4000-6000 vials per month, that is approximately 50% of the usual issue rate of vials. Of course these vials contain less iu of Factor VIII activity.

I am sure you can appreciate the complexity of the operation necessitated by the change to the heated product, and look forward to an early reply.

Yours sincerely,
for Blood Products Laboratory,

N. Pettet
Product Services Manager

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