

NAF resolution  
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American Association of Blood Banks  
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## Hemophilia Foundation Passes AIDS Resolution

In response to its concern regarding hemophiliacs with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council of the National Hemophilia Foundation has passed the following resolution that was endorsed by the NHF Board of Directors on October 3, 1982:

In view of the relatively high incidence of AIDS in certain groups (specifically: homosexuals, intravenous drug abusers, and those who have recently resided in Haiti) and, in view of the potential risk of transmission of this syndrome by transfusion of blood products, it is considered prudent at the present time to urge all sources of Factor VIII products to exclude from plasma donation all individuals who belong to these groups.

In a communication to blood banking groups, Louis M. Aledort, MD, medical codirector of NHF, stated that "We recognize that this request is made on the basis of incomplete information, but in our view it is prudent as a precautionary measure until we get a better understanding of the nature of this disease. As you know, NHF is working with the Centers for Disease Control in a nationwide surveillance study that may help to clarify whether or not the spread of AIDS is related to blood product use."

During the AABB Annual Meeting in Anaheim, Bruce Evatt, MD, director of the Division of Host Factors in the Center of Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control, who is involved with the AIDS investigation, addressed the AABB Committee on Standards concerning the evidence that has been reported to CDC. In addition to the Standards Committee remaining apprised of developments concerning AIDS, a newly appointed Committee on Transfusion Transmitted Diseases chaired by Joseph Bove, MD, will also be monitoring the situation. At this writing, six cases of hemophiliacs with the disease have been confirmed by CDC. The CDC Task Force on AIDS has recently been dissolved and the Center for Infectious Diseases, Division of Host Factors, has assumed the responsibility with respect to AIDS.