



# The Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre,  
Edgbaston,  
Birmingham.B15 2TH.  
021-472 1311 Ext: **GRO-C**

Please reply to: Haematology Department Your ref:

Our ref: IMF/MJB

24 May 1984

Dr Lane  
Blood Products Laboratory  
Dagger Lane  
Elstree  
Borehamwood  
Herts WD6 3BX

Dear Dr Lane

Re: Supplies of NHS Factor VIII

As Co-director of the Haemophilia Centre at this hospital, I have been most disturbed at the sudden fall in supplies of NHS material for our patients. It is only a month or so ago that I was requested to change some patients to NHS from commercial material because of a glut of the former at the Regional Transfusion Centre. It appears that we will now be in the position of having to treat patients with commercial material who may never have been exposed to this in the past. This situation is particularly regrettable given the current interest amongst haemophiliacs in the acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Almost every adult patient at our clinic asks about this syndrome and a significant number of patients have requested to receive only NHS material. Our efforts to reassure patients have included maintaining them on a single product so as to limit the pool of donors to which they are exposed as much as possible. Not only will this sudden and unexpected short-fall in NHS material mean that we will have to change this policy but it will also make epidemiological studies of hepatitis and AIDS meaningless.

Could you perhaps let me know of the likely future supplies of NHS material so that I may plan the treatment strategy for my patients. I understand that this region is a major supplier of plasma to your plant and I trust that the products we receive back reflect this. I am aware that the expansion of your production capacity may be causing you difficulties but frankly I find the sudden swings in supplies with no due notice to clinicians involved in the treatment of patients to be unacceptable.

Yours sincerely

**GRO-C**

I M Franklin  
Consultant Haematologist

cc Dr F G H Hill, QEH  
Dr F A Ala, Director, Regional Blood Transfusion Centre

Central Birmingham Health Authority