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Ref: JB 87-91

February 9, 1987

To: Dr. J. P. Fallise
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From: Dr. R. H. Rousell
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Subject: Follow-up data of the study by Professor Allain
on Koate-HT in Virgin Hemophiliacs.

As you may have heard there has been some suggestion recently that even heat-treated coagulation products may be associated with seroconversion of hemophiliacs to HTLV-III antibody positive. Whether or not such seroconversion does definitely occur, whether it is due to transmission of infectious virus or to active immunization because of transmission of heat inactivated viral antigen, or whether it is attributable to some other high risk situation cannot be absolutely confirmed. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to attempt to obtain as much additional information as we can on all seronegative patients who have been treated with heat-treated preparations in an ongoing manner.

Accordingly I shall be grateful if you would make discreet inquiries of Dr. Sultan and Dr. Verroust to see if they still have access to the patients in the study and if these patients have had or can have serum assays performed for HTLV-III antibodies. Obviously, if such results are available then we would also need to know what heat-treated preparations these patients have received since their inclusion in the Koate-HT study.

I do not think that you should mention to the French group at this stage that there is a question about seroconversion following heat-treated concentrates. However, you could mention that it is a topic which you have heard may be raised at the Brussels meeting in July. This will enable them to get any relevant data together.

Please contact me if you have any inquiries or wish to discuss the matter further.

GRO-C

Dr. R. H. Rousell

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