



PL/CMO(92)21

To: Regional Haemophilia Centre Directors
Regional Directors of Public Health
Regional HIV/AIDS Coordinators

Copy: Regional Epidemiologists
Regional General Managers
Chairman of the UK Regional
Haemophilia Directors Organisation

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14 December 1992

Dear Colleague,

HIGH PURITY FACTOR VIII: EARMARKED AIDS FUNDS

There has been considerable debate during the past year about the use of high purity factor VIII products in the treatment of HIV seropositive haemophiliacs and whether or not the price differential between them and intermediate purity products is a proper call upon the earmarked AIDS budget.

From data which have been accumulating over recent months, I decided that the time was right to reassess the situation. In the light of new evidence I have concluded that if treating clinicians feel that the use of high purity factor VIII products have benefits for HIV positive haemophiliacs in terms of HIV infection as well as haemophilia per se then, the price differential would be an appropriate use of earmarked AIDS funds.

This conclusion in no way represents guidance to clinicians on whether or not to prescribe a specific product for an individual patient. This decision must be for the treating clinician.

I hope that this letter clarifies the situation in what is a complicated and rapidly evolving area.

GRO-C

DR K C CALMAN
Chief Medical Officer

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Please get
J. Connors. c.A. 201-2
A. Refman
16/12.

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For further information on this letter PL/CMO(92)21, please write to Ms L Johnson-Laird, Room 228, Friars House, 157-168 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8EU. Telephone GRO-C.

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