165/4

337B

R W B Allen - STB H721 RSQ

DIAGNOSTIC TESTS F[redacted]V III ANTIBODY

We have discussed y[redacted] minute of 16 January with the dra[redacted]tter to send to pharmaceutical firms who are likely to want to market diagnostic test for HTLV III antibody in the UK. We agreed that any reference to the Blood Transfusion Service should not be included. It would be sufficient to mention the NHS. I was content with Dr Dixon's suggestion that the firms should also be asked to inform us of any approaches they had already made to individual Regional Transfusion Directors or others.

We also discussed whether or not any reference should be made to tests not being accepted in the UK unless they had FDA approval and decided that such stipulation might not act in Wellcomes best interests in the short term. FDA approval was in any case/be one of the factors to be considered in any evaluation.

GRO-C

21 January 1985

Dr Alison Smithies
MED SEB
Room 1025a Hannibal House
Ext GRO-C

cc Dr Abrams
Mr M Harris
Mr Williams