NATIONAL BLOOD AUTHORITY ISSUES
RECALL NOTICE ON PLASMA PRODUCTS

Media statement

30 October 1997

Following instructions received from the Medicines Control Agency (MCA), based upon a new recommendation by the Committee on Proprietary Medicinal Products (CPMP), the National Blood Authority has today initiated a recall of plasma products (*Albumin and Factor VIII) from 26 distribution sites in England.

CPMP has recommended that there should be a recall of batches of blood products if a blood donation to a plasma pool was found to have been made from a person who developed nvCJD. It has now been established that plasma from a donor, who subsequently developed nvCJD, contributed to this batch of blood products.

The recall is purely a precautionary measure since there is no epidemiological evidence to suggest that CJD can be transmitted between humans through blood transfusions or the use of blood products.

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*Albumin is used, for example, in the treatment of shock, burns and chronic liver disease. Factor VIII is used to treat haemophilia.

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