

Cutter



TO: Dr. K. Fischer

FROM: J. Hink

SUBJECT: Aquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

DATE: 12/28/82

COPIES TO: Members of BSB
R. Barden
S. Ojala
Dr. R. Schwartz

Steve Ojala and I talked with Dr. Donahue (OoB-FDA) as a follow up to his request for Industry actions which could be considered positive toward reducing the potential for transmitting AIDS thru blood product infusions.

We told him that we had discontinued the manufacture of coagulation products from plasma collected from predominately homosexual donors (anti-HB_s plasma). We described our plan for requiring all donors to read a brochure describing AIDS and identifying what are considered "high risk" donors (I.V. drug abusers, homosexuals and individuals recently living in Haiti), and then asking each donor in the confidentiality of the predonation screening booth if he/she considers himself a "high risk" donor. If so, we would request that he voluntarily remove himself from all bleeding programs.

I described to Dr. Donahue the manner in which homosexuals are segregated within the prison and explained to him that we do not bleed known homosexuals in our two prison centers. Although I indicated that our AIDS educational program would be used at the prison, Donahue was quite clear that the explanation would not be expected to be accepted by the news media, hemophiliacs or even the scientific community. He strongly advised that all prison plasma be excluded from use in the manufacture of coagulation products.

We asked his thoughts on Recovered plasma and again he brought up Irwin Memorial and the infant who contracted AIDS following a platelet transfusion from a donor who 8 months later came down with the disease. He indicated that 30% of Irwin's donors are homosexuals (a high level of altruism!). Donahue later made aspersions about centers located on the Mexican border and in Florida.

We talked about the upcoming meeting to be held by CDC in Atlanta on Jan. 4th. Although he seemed to have an agenda he couldn't give us any specifics. The meeting is an open meeting and will certainly be well attended by the scientific as well as consumer and news media communities. He advised that Cutter should attend. Steve and I will be there. , ,

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