

HEALTH CARE (UK) LIMITED



Armour Pharmaceutical  
Company Limited

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**BERK**  
Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

TO : Dr P A Harris  
FROM : Mr R B Christie  
SUBJECT : HEAT TREATED FACTORATE

DATE: February 18, 1986

REF: RSC/EB/10164

CONFIDENTIAL

COPIES TO :

While you were at the executive meeting yesterday afternoon, I received a telephone call from Dr Rotblatt at the DHSS.

She is trying to obtain a clear picture of the various cases upon which Dr Jones's Newcastle presentation was based.

Dr Jones has told her that there were two cases, not one, in Holland and that the second case was Armour material and was all heat treated.

I tried all afternoon to contact Dr Ten Cate but he was out. In the circumstances, I had to release to Dr Rotblatt some of the contents of the article prepared by Dr Ten Cate for publication, but I explained to her that this had been obtained through a third party and I had not had an opportunity to discuss it with the clinician concerned, nor obtain his permission to disclose it.

Essentially, I confirmed that the patient had received our material ex-Germany since 1983, that we believed that it was all heat treated and were confirming this finally from Woelm. The patient treated prior to 1983 was not discussed in the proposed letter, but as the patient was a 27 year old severe haemophiliac, it was likely that he had received non-heat treated Factor VIII prior to 1983. His treatment had included one batch from a pool that contained a known AIDS victim.

The patient had developed lymphadenopathy but had recovered. Dr Rotblatt said that this was not unusual and several cases of AIDS related syndrome had gone into remission. I also mentioned that attempts to culture virus from the patient's serum were unsuccessful. Apparently, this is also a known phenomenon and nobody knows quite what it means, possibly the antibody has killed all the virus.

Dr Rotblatt asked for our heat treatment process which I gave to her - 60°C for 30 hours. She then asked for any viral inactivation studies that we had to confirm that this was a lethal process for spiked plasma samples. I promised to send everything available.

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Finally, Dr Jones has told Dr Rotblatt that someone (she thinks Dr Levi) in the U.S. has cultured HTLV-III virus from Armour's Heat Treated concentrate! I promised to find out if there is any truth in this rumour.

Dr Rotblatt is a valuable ally at the moment and we should do all that we can to meet her requests.

As you know, I am now obliged to report Dr Whitmore's patient who sero-converted following treatment with Factorate H T Y69402 (AIDS donor in pool) to her as Dr Whitmore has confirmed that the patient remains HTLV-III positive.

GRO-C

R B Christie

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