11th June, 1981.

Mr. K. Polten,   Our ref   JC/PH   Your ref
Haemophilia Society,
P.O. Box 9,
16, Trinity Street,
LONDON   SE1   1DE

Dear Mr. Polten,

Dr. Rizza has suggested that I write to you to seek the financial support of the Haemophilia Society to cover the period before financial support can be organized by the Medical Research Council.

You will be aware that we have been studying the types and occurrence of transfusion hepatitis at the Oxford Haemophilia Centre for a number of years. A three year grant which we have had from the Department of Health and Social Security is due to expire in September. In the last six months it has become obvious as a result of these studies that we need to find out more information about one aspect of this problem. We need to know the relative risk of contracting symptomless and overt infection as a result of transfusion with the different products used in treating haemophiliacs in this country. The attached protocol will give you some idea of the scheme we have in mind.

We approached the D.H.S.S. with a view to obtaining further funds from them. They are very keen that this work should be undertaken but, owing to the complexity of the problem involved, they were of the opinion that a study involving more than one Haemophilia Centre will be needed. They are writing to the MRC recommending that they should support such a project. Unfortunately, there will be a time lapse of about one year before the necessary paper work and application can be made to the MRC and arrangements made at the other Haemophilia Centres. I will be very grateful, therefore, if the Haemophilia Society will agree to support the salary of one health visitor for one year at Oxford as this will enable us to undertake a preliminary pilot study so that the full project can be designed in the most economical fashion.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

J. Craske
Consultant Virologist
Chairman, Haemophilia Directors Hepatitis
Working Party