

23rd December, 1958

Dr. Stanley Wray,
Central Clinical Laboratory,
General Hospital,
Ayresome Green Lane,
Middlesbrough.

Dear Dr. Wray,

Dr. Macfarlane asked me to write to you about A.H.G. Two types of concentrated A.H.G. are available in small amounts for the treatment of specific patients. What I mean by this is that there is not enough for anyone to hold a stock in case of emergency. These are:-

1. Human A.H.G. made by the Lister Institute. This is very effective haemostatically but is in very short supply and the material tends to give frightening and inexplicable reactions.
2. Animal A.H.G. is available through us for specific suitable cases. These preparations are much more potent than the human A.H.G. but of course are antigenic and total treatment period is 2-3 weeks. These preparations we reserve for unequivocally essential major surgery (intestinal obstruction, carcinoma, amputations, head injuries requiring exploration, etc.). The material is undoubtedly very effective within its limits. In due course we may find that second courses of treatment can be given with impunity when the material could be used more widely.

About plasma. The A.H.G. content of frozen plasma is unfortunately ~~very~~ variable. I think that this may be related to partial clotting during collection. Without organising a very special system of blood collection with magnetic stirring and polythene sets it is difficult to avoid. We don't know keep a bank of frozen plasma but our transfusion service makes the plasma on special order for specific patients.

I hope that in due course the plasma problem will settle itself a bit more satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Biggs.