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Our Ref: JKR/wj/184590

GRO-B 1998

William Rosenberg  
Senior Lecturer  
Liver Unit  
Southampton

Dear William

GRO-B

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I wonder if you could have a look at this chap as a second opinion. He actually lives in GRO-B and comes to see me here because he attends the Haemophilia Unit. He is known to have Hepatitis 'C' and is HIV positive and this year had a lymphoma of the pharynx for which he was treated with chemotherapy. He is decompensated since then with increasing ascites which has been difficult to manage on diuretics. He has had one paracentesis at the Royal South Hants (when he was seen for his lymphoma) and has had another paracentesis today.

I assume that his decompensation was related to the chemotherapy but this is not absolutely proven. He is not known to be cirrhotic since he has not ever had a liver biopsy but his ultra-sound here showed a finally nodular surface to the liver which is rather suggestive but I note the CT scans have not suggested cirrhosis when they were done in Southampton. He has had no evidence of recurrence of the lymphoma and he is on triple therapy for his HIV and is also on Septrin. He is actually quite a complicated case and it would be best if I could speak to you on the 'phone about him.

There will be some chemotherapy notes at the Royal South Hants, as well. I am having trouble controlling his ascites and I am still unclear as to why his liver has deteriorated recently (his enzymes went up to an AST of 500 around October of this year and are now gradually reducing). He is currently an inpatient today but should be going home tomorrow and wonder if you might be able to see him fairly soon at Southampton.

Obviously, he and his wife are quite anxious about the whole situation. I think this would be helped by a further opinion.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Dr J K Ramage MD MRCP  
Consultant Physician (Gastroenterology)