



## DERRIFORD COMBINED LABORATORY

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GRO-C

YOUR REF:

8 July 1996

OUR REF: AC/CFT

Dr. S. V. Davies.  
Consultant Haematologist,  
Department of Haematology,  
Taunton & Somerset Hospital,  
Mugrove Park,  
TAUNTON TA1 5DA.

Dear Simon,

re: Hepatitis C Audit.

I enclose the Hepatitis C Audit sheets. I am sorry they are a little later than your deadline.

It has been a useful activity getting out these patients. There is a little uncertainty about the original number of patients who have received concentrate factor and it may be more than 16. I am trying to sort out our Oxford Haemophilia database because there are many names on this of patients that we have no recent knowledge of and some have died. It is possible that more will come to light in due course.

Our basic policy is to manage these patients in collaboration with Dr. Steven Wilkinson, our Hepatologist. His policy so far has been to monitor the liver function tests and asked me to arrange PCR tests which have been performed at Edinburgh. Many of the patients are currently being reviewed by him in the light of the results to make a decision about alpha interferon treatment. He is currently discussing this with the purchasers to obtain funding but I do not think this is a major problem as we are able to treat them as part of the general haematology pool of patients.

I have also been sent an Alpha Interferon and Ribavirin trial to consider. There are only a few patients that would be eligible here because of the age criteria and I enclose a copy - perhaps it might be better to treat the patients regionally in this trial. I would be interested to know what you think.

Lastly, Mike Hamon and I will be discussing later on this week the draft guidelines for treatment of haemophiliacs and I am sure you will wish to have feedback before your meeting in September. It does look as though they are not giving particular guidelines as to whether intermediate or high purity factor VIII should be used. Perhaps we could discuss this further some time.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

**GRO-C**

A. Copplestone,  
Consultant Haematologist.