

Interoffice correspondence



Langenslade 6-2
5000 March 2, 1979 Germany
phone: 439-319376
telex: 52-163 travu d

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 202429, 6000 March 2
Cable Code: Travenol Muenchen

*Alpater Bernul
AHF*

Behring - m/f

to: W. Termeer/Costa Mesa

date: February 2, 1979

from: P. Taub

cc: F. de Vreker; W. Thomas;
K. Warde; J. Crone-Erdmann;
C. Schmergel; W. Thrasher;
C. Harding;

subject: Behring AHF

RECEIVED

FEB 15 1979

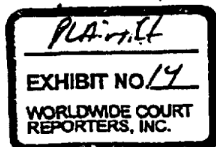
OFFICE OF
W. R. THOMAS, PH.D.

Following information obtained on Behring "hepatitis safe, fi-
brinogen-free AHF":

Cryo first stabilized with buffer (amino-acid), then heated up to 55 °C during 6 to 7 minutes; Heating is done through jet stream allowing only small volume to be heated at one time. At this stage, the fibrinogen becomes fibrin, which is then filtered out. The fibrinogen-free cryo still containing Factor VIII, Albumin and cold insoluble Beta globulin (plus other proteins in minor concentrations) is further purified with glycine.)

After lyophilization, the product is nasteurized during 18 - 20 hours using the same procedure Behring first experimented with the now commercially available I.V. Plasminogen. The AHF concentrate is thus claimed to be hepatitis-safe. It has been tried in animals (chimpanzees or green monkeys?) and is now being tried clinically in a few centres in Germany.

In addition, Behring also claims a much stricter donor selection. They also redeployed the personnel working in the fractionation plant: all hepatitis antigen positive personnel have been removed and replaced by antibody (hen. A and B) positive personnel.



Could you please urgently investigate the feasibility of pasteurization after lyophilization. I have just finished a tour of all the major centers in Germany and will summarize the latest developments in a separate memo. It is clear that with the number of competitors now on the market (8 companies + DRK) and the stagnant AFP consumption, a product innovation would be very timely to maintain our current price level and increase our market share.

With kind regards,

GRO-C

P. Taub

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