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DR FURNELL

ADVISORY GROUP ON TESTING FOR HEPATITIS B

I refer to your minute of 27 June regarding the future of the AGHB.

I have discussed this with Dr Geffen and Dr Oliver. The position seems to be that the AGHB can continue with its work on redrafting the Report on Testing and with any other matters which are its legitimate concern. In addition, as you know, the AGHB is to be asked to comment on the PHLS draft recommendations for the use of HBIG. For these purposes it will probably be necessary for the AGHB to meet again prior to the establishment of the new Advisory Group. This is perfectly in order.

When the new Advisory Group is set up, the intention is that the AGHB should continue unchanged except that it will be a sub-group of the main group.

I have already outlined the position to Dr Jenkins but will now put him more fully in the picture. I shall also contact Professor Zuckerman to allay his fears about lack of central policy for Hepatitis carriers, to thank him for his contribution and to express the hope that he will be prepared to continue to answer queries on these matters until the new group is established.

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c.c. Dr Oliver
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Dr Smithies
Mr Harley
Mr Gibb
Mr Tringham
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