

Dr J. J. A. Reid

Antihemophilic globulin concentrate (Factor VIII)

We spoke.

I sent CMO copies of minute dated 4 Jan and a letter to Dr J. P. Thomas about product licenses for an American and an Austrian concentrate. Dr. Waite tells me that a license for the former has been obtained and is likely to be issued in the near future.

Dr. Waite has estimated, using data from Dr R. Bagg, Haemophilia Centre, Oxford, that the annual total cost for treating haemophiliacs in U.K. might well run into several million £.

It therefore seems important for the Dept. to consider whether this concentrate should be bought centrally ^{above} and issued only through haemophilia centres and hospitals. The rate of expenditure would obviously not be reached immediately + it is of course possible that the amounts available from the American source may be limited. Nevertheless because of the potential expense it is important to decide how this problem should be dealt with.

If you agree, I would then suggest that the Dept. might assemble an ad hoc group to discuss the matter. Members might be Dr R. Prosser and A.C. Pizzo, Haemophilia Centre Oxford, Professor E.K. Blackburn, Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, Professor G.I.C. Ingram, St. Thomas' Hospital, London and a Scottish representative. I would suggest Professor A.S. Douglas for the latter who is Chairman of the Scottish Working Party on the production, laboratory and clinical evaluation of Factor VIII + Factor IX.

I shall send you a minute very soon concerning the request forwarded through Professor Blackburn that the Dept. should form a working party to consider the whole question of providing materials for the treatment of haemophilia related disorders.

The question of the American concentrate stands to require more urgent consideration that could be given by the proposed working party.

In view of the expense of bought in materials the Dept. should have constantly in mind the need to develop our own sources in the U.K. haemophilic serum. 24.1.73

cc Dr. Waite
Mr. Liddell
Mr. Walters

GRO-C