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Your reference

Our reference

BLJ/6

Date

/6 July 1981

Dear Mr Lambert

SUPPLY OF BLOOD PRODUCTS

Thank you for your letter of 21 May.

We have given this careful consideration in the context of our review of the supply of all blood products sent to non-NHS bodies. However, given that the Blood Products Laboratory is unable to meet the NHS demand for certain blood products, including Factor VIII, and that the products sent to you direct from the Laboratory (Factor VIII and IX) are readily available from commercial suppliers, it has been decided that arrangements for the direct supply of this material should cease. In order to give you sufficient time to make arrangements to purchase these products commercially, I have asked the Director of the Laboratory to supply 40 vials of Factor VIII and 25 vials of Factor IX this month. Please do not hesitate to get in touch, however, if cessation of supplies at this notice will cause undue difficulty.

You asked "how many plasma donations are equated with one vial of Factor VIII". Broadly speaking, it takes one litre of fresh frozen plasma to produce one vial of Factor VIII which represents the plasma taken from five donations of whole blood. I should add, however, that it is not clear at this stage in the upgrading programme currently being carried out at BPL, whether the Laboratory would be in a position to fractionate (possibly on an agency basis) fresh frozen plasma from Jersey.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

S GODFREY

11. Mr Pettit says to explain that although the Factor VIII had been despatched, there was a temporary shortage of Factor IX which meant that Jersey would have to wait for supply. We agreed that it would be polite for telephone Jersey to explain the delay.

GRO-C: S Jacke