

Mr Dutton

cc Dr Beddard
Dr Raison
Dr Maycock
Dr Waiter
Mr John

Mr Nodder - you may wish to note
what is in hand on this;
there is Ministerial
interest.

TREATMENT OF HAEMOPHILIA

Your minute of 25 February.

1. I think there is general agreement that the Expert Group should advise all three Departments, if SHHD and WO are agreeable. My only slight doubt is that this would weaken our present control over its activities, eg SHHD might press for a meeting when they wanted advice on some aspect, at a time which was inopportune for some reason at our end. This is something we will have to deal with as best we can if it occurs. Would you therefore write to SHHD and WO, in agreement with Dr Waiter, to propose this?
2. In regard to the Terms of Reference, with respect to Dr Maycock I would not myself have thought that the small addition he suggests would make much difference in practice (do not methods of treatment normally include application?) but if Med DS4 confirm that this is desirable please arrange accordingly, including reference to this point in your letters mentioned above.
3. I am not yet completely clear in my own mind whether or not we should ask this Group to consider distribution arrangements. I think it is almost certainly better not to do so; the distribution problem is primarily a service management question, which has aspects of relationships, peculiar to itself, best sorted out, if possible, by representatives of the producers and users directly, with Departmental participation. However, if supplies of the product are to cross the border, (whether or not following a transfer of the raw material), Anglo-Scottish agreement will be necessary. I therefore suggest that you and Dr Waiter should in the first place sound out the ground in regard to distribution arrangements for the product with your opposite numbers in SHHD. Depending on the outcome you could then proceed with the joint RTD/User group conceived by Dr Maycock either with or without Scottish participation as may be agreed to be appropriate. I think we should include an interested RMO to represent the RHA management responsibility. On this basis we would simply inform the (larger) Expert Group in due course of the decision on this point. If this procedure is accepted I agree with the implication in Dr Maycock's minute that Drs Gunson and Jenkins would not need to be added to the Expert Group membership.
4. I agree that we should convene a meeting of the Expert Group as soon as you have reached agreement with SHHD and WO not only about the Terms of Reference but also about the revised membership. I think Dr Maycock's suggestion that SHHD might be invited to reconsider their representation, in the light of our Minister's strong pressure for close co-operation, is sound. It would certainly be helpful to have Mr Watt. Dr Raison may wish to consider other names which we might indicate as being potentially useful (though this is of course a matter for SHHD decision, unless we specifically wish to invite a Scottish individual whom we feel would help us in England; I imagine this is unlikely to be necessary). On a different point, it might be useful to invite Professor Hardisty to become a member, in view of our recent exchanges with Minister; could Med DS4 advise?

CONCLUSION

5. I would therefore envisage further action as follows, if Dr Raison agrees:

- (1) Inform SHHD and WO of intention to reconvene Expert Group, and agree Terms of Reference and membership with them. Dr Raison would no doubt continue as Chairman. Also consult them on proposed procedure for discussing distribution arrangements (unless earlier agreed that they have no interest).
- (2) Arrange meeting for soon after Easter; Agenda to cover consideration of qualities and types of existing products, probable trends in future needs and any changes or improvements in presentation, and estimates of requirements for each over the next ten years in each country, quoting, say, 1977, 1980, 1985 as key years. Production and purchase figures for calendar years 1974 and 1975 should be provided in papers, with latest national 1976 and 1977 production estimates. I hope Dr Waiter will be able to provide a paper on comparative presentations. Members should be invited to produce papers on any of these aspects if they wish.
- (3) Concurrently with (2), arrange for discussions on distribution arrangements to be carried out.
- (4) Subject to further consideration if necessary and any prior informal exchanges, plan for a meeting of the Joint Steering Committee, say in the second half of June. This should receive a report of the Expert Group's meeting and any further work resulting therefrom. If relevant, a report on the agreed distribution arrangements should be circulated for information. By that time a substantive report on the Liberton experience and progress should be available; we would of course match this with comparable data for BPL and PFL. The Committee should also know of Minister's strong interest in the whole subject and in the state of Anglo-Scottish co-operation in particular. (Dr Raison may wish to know that when I took the opportunity of our recent meeting to discuss this with Dr Beddard he indicated that he did not wish to be involved and was happy for either Dr Raison or an appropriate administrator to chair the meeting).
- (5) Report to Minister within the next week or so, informing him of what we are doing and planning.

6. Will you please proceed accordingly, subject of course to any other comments received from other quarters.

M W DRAPER

M W Draper

HS2B

1 March 1976