

Cutter



CUTTER BIOLOGICAL
DIVISION OF CUTTER LABORATORIES, INC.
2000 EAST 10TH STREET
PORTLAND, OREGON 97202
(503) 425-4200

November 15, 1982

Charles J. Carman Louis M. Aledort
Chairman of the Board Medical Co-Director
The National Hemophilia Foundation
19 West 34th Street
Suite 1204
New York, New York 10001

Dear Mr. Carman and Dr. Aledort:

Thank you for your letter of November 2nd and the expressions of concern regarding the potential transmission of an infectious agent transmitted to hemophiliacs through blood products. We share your concerns and have taken actions which will reduce the possibility that such an agent will be transmitted by high risk population groups through use of Cutter coagulation product.

All suppliers of plasma to Cutter conduct screening of their donors in accordance with written procedures to assure freedom of the arms and forearms from skin punctures or scars indicative of intravenous drug abuses. In situations where doubt exists (skin punctures claimed to be the result of previous plasmapheresis) the origin must be verified or a conservative judgement for donor rejection is made.

Since the first reported incidence of AIDS was confirmed in hemophiliacs receiving plasma components, Cutter has excluded from coagulation products all plasma collected from plasma centers known to encourage donations from the homosexual population. Because of the sensitivity of the issue, we have not made overt efforts to identify the adventitious active homosexual or Haitian refugee in our normal donor population.

Our continuing efforts to develop a better understanding of AIDS and its relationship to administration of blood products would be greatly enhanced if the NPS would send us any information which might relate the five cases of AIDS to Cutter's coagulation product. Specific information such as lot numbers, patient histories, etc., would be of benefit to us to more closely examine our product.

Again, thank you for your letter and show of concern. Please do not hesitate to call on any Cutter representative for further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

GRO-C

Jack Ryan
Division Vice President

cc John Hink

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