

Cutter



CUTTER BIOLOGICAL
DIVISION OF MILES LABORATORIES, INC.
2200 POWELL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 8817
EMERYVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94662
(415) 420-4000
DIRECT DIAL (415) 420

TELEX CUTTERFAM ENVL 335-380
BERKLEY ADM 335-423

November 23, 1983

Leonard M. Klein, M.D.
North Suburban Medical Consultants, Ltd.
9101 N. Greenwood Avenue, Suite 304
Niles, Illinois 60648

Dear Dr. Klein:

Your letter to our Director of Quality Assurance has been forwarded to me for reply, and I hope the following will be helpful.

As to the severity of the AIDS in the donor involved, I can only say that he was apparently symptom and sign free right up to the day before he was admitted to the hospital with PC pneumonia. Apparently he did not even know he had a problem until that time, and he demonstrated no signs or symptoms of AIDS upon any visit to the plasma center. He had also signed a form indicating that he was not a member of a high risk group, but, of course, there is no way for us to prove this was so, or disprove it, for that matter. He died from pneumonia about 3 weeks after admission. He had been donating on a regular basis over a period of about 11 months, so it is possible that he might not even have had the disease during some of the earlier donations.

We have been assured by Federal authorities and several AIDS experts, that due to the enormous dilution of his plasma in the AHF pool, it is highly unlikely that transmission of AIDS to a recipient would occur. Each AHF pool contains plasma from as many as 7,000 to 15,000 individuals. While we were not required to recall the Lots involved, we felt a moral obligation to do so.

With respect to following a hemophiliac by lymphocyte subset ratios, the experts have also told us that in hemophilia patients this would probably be of little value, as most hemophiliacs have abnormal immunological profiles to begin with. It is possible that by doing so, more harm than good could result, at least from a psychological aspect, since many hemophilia patients already show a ratio decrease without actually having AIDS. For this reason, no program for financial support for this activity has been established, nor has the procedure been recommended for use in this situation.

If you have further questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

GRO-C - GM Akin

G. M. Akin, M.D.
Director, Medical Services
cc: J. Russell

022000 000000

100 6280

M004614 S

BAYP0004975_0001