

Our Ref: DH/GC

Your Ref: AJT/cw/NSAg

2nd April 1982

The Rev. A. J. Tanner, M.A.,
Chairman,
The Haemophilia Society,
P.O. Box 9,
16 Trinity Street,
London,
SE1 1DE.

Dear Alan,

Many thanks for your letter of the 26th March. My fame must be spreading if I get a letter from the Chairman of the Haemophilia Society.

I've enclosed a copy of the press release issued in December. Since that time there have been dozens of articles published, most of them getting the wrong end of the stick. I've put a couple of the more accurate ones in for your perusal.

The current interest from the U.S.A. has probably sprung from Frank Schnabel's visit to Genentech and Scripps clinic, where he was told that Speywood was well ahead in the race to produce genetically engineered Factor VIII:C. That information was basically correct, we have in fact made some remarkable progress within our Oxford research programme and if all goes well from now I anticipate that we will be selling G.E. FVIII:C in five years' time.

In the meantime we are just beginning to produce a super high purity human factor VIII:C from conventional raw materials; our in-vitro tests show that this is free from hepatitis infectivity - only a full year's clinical trial in patients with clean livers will prove this. We are also progressing well with a porcine oral preparation of Factor VIII:C. If we are successful with this our eventual goal will be an oral genetically engineered human Factor VIII:C. Quite a target, isn't it?

If you need anything further give me a ring.

Kind regards,

David Heath