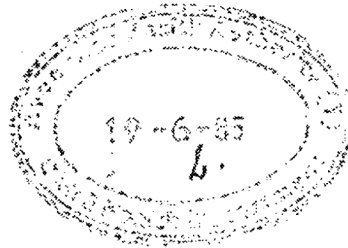


CHW Nailsea

MD/HW/1252094.

14th June, 1985.

Dr. Wright,  
The Helath Centre,  
NAILSEA.



Dear Dr. Wright,

RE: TURTON Lee d.o.b. GRO-C 81,  
GRO-C

I saw Lee's parents recently following a report from the laboratory that he is positive to HTLV - III virus.

This retro-virus is as you know implicated in the cause of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

Where as a significant number of homosexual subjects who have raised antibodies in the HTLV - III virus go on to get clinical AIDS, the risk appears to be far lower in the haemophilia population. To date there are 5,000 haemophiliacs in the U.K., approximately 50% of whom are antibody positive to HTLV - III. Only four cases of AIDS have been described in haemophiliacs in the U.K., and a comparable number in the U.S.A.

The chance of Lee developing AIDS is therefore extremely small and I stressed this to his parents.

He has obviously met the virus through receiving human factor VIII pooled from multiple donors, but from now on

/cont...

there should be no further exposure since the Factor VIII obtained is British (not American) and is heat-treated.

As a precaution the Haematologists recommend that anyone taking blood from, or administering blood products to GRO-A should wear gloves and of course the needles should be disposed of carefully. Having said that, the chance of acquiring the virus through accidental inoculation seems to be extremely small.

Transmission of Virus seems to occur only through sexual intercourse (predominantly homosexual) or administration of blood products. There is therefore no reason why Lee should not indulge in full social and school activity, and I personally do not see that the matter needs to be discussed outside the family and those attending to him medically.

The Turtors seemed to take this news well, and did not appear unduly perturbed. I have offered to see them again at any time should they have any queries, and indeed you are very welcome to write or telephone me here if you wish to discuss the matter further.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

M. DONALDSON,  
SENIOR REGISTRAR TO DR. BURMAN.