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CD-3.6

Mr Malone-Lee

From: J Canavan

EHF1

Date: 3 June 1991

1. I must apologise for the inordinate delay in responding to your requests for advice on the attached. I have just unearthed them from a pile of what I thought was old HIV litigation papers.

2. I attach draft replies to both letters should you wish to use them at this late stage.

3. As for the plasma target, Roger Moore had written round to Transfusion Centres telling them of BPL expected usage in 1991/92 and asking what each Centre planned to supply. These individual amounts could be accommodated within CBLA's estimated uptake apart from a small amount of special plasmas. The national target of 500 tonnes is now being approached and the question for next year will be whether it needs revising; CBLA yields will be critical to this. If not, then good producers might find themselves constrained.

4. As for HCV testing, I don't think anyone was under any illusions but that it was marginal in terms of cost benefit. But this is true of other NHS interventions. However the litigation factor, the introduction of testing elsewhere in Europe and the prospect of EC harmonisation of licensing requirements for blood products stacked up in favour of testing.

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