

21 July 1997

Our ref: LMW/cmh

Dr W M McClelland  
Director  
Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service  
Belfast City Hospital Complex  
Lisburn Road  
Belfast BT9 7YS

Dear Morris

**Solvent Detergent FFP**

At last I enclose the final version of the information sheet on standard and solvent detergent treated FFP. The enclosed has been approved by both the Medicines Control Agency and Octapharma. This has not been a quick process.

Octapharma also wished to approve the covering letter which would go out to hospitals with the information sheet. This is because they are not allowed to market the product themselves until it is licensed, but they wished to know what we were telling their potential customers. This has been agreed, at least for the NBS, and the enclosed letter has Octapharma's approval. Clearly, this Agreement did not particularly cover other UK Transfusion Services and you may wish to find your own form of words, particularly if you are also considering methylene blue plasma in the same time frame. I think the key points Octapharma wanted to see in the letter were:

- 1) Haematologists should be encouraged to discuss the issue with end users;
- 2) Octapharma should have an opportunity to be involved in replying to queries about Octaplas which may result from distribution of the information sheet.

However, I have not agreed to their request to provide a list of all recipients of this correspondence.

I am happy to discuss this further if you wish.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Dr Lorna Williamson  
Consultant / University Lecturer in Transfusion Medicine

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Letter also sent to Dr J A F Napier and Prof Ian Franklin