

Dr J Riddell

GRO-C

EG:mh:CORRES

27th November 1990

Dear Dr Riddell

re: Nicholas HIRSCH, dob: GRO-C 76, RFH No 223262

GRO-C

Mrs Hirsch requested an appointment for Nicholas because he was feeling constantly tired and she said that you had suggested it might be worth doing a test for glandular fever. He was sullen and uncooperative and seemed thoroughly fed up at having been brought to the Centre. They said that he ate a reasonable diet but was always tired and had missed two days of school in the past two weeks and a total of six days in the previous half-term. There were no other significant symptoms.

On examination he weighed 44.1 Kg with a height of 168 cm. Blood pressure was 90/60. General clinical examination revealed no abnormality.

When last reviewed the MCV was borderline at 78 fl. He had grown 10 cm in the past year and it seemed just possible that he had become iron deficient during an adolescent growth spurt. Results of investigations were as follows:

Monospot negative

Haemoglobin: 12.6g/dl.

MCV: 81 fl.

White Cell Count:  $6.3 \times 10^9/l$ .

Platelet count:  $171 \times 10^9/l$ .

Normal differential count and normal T4 lymphocyte count.

ALP: 294

AST: 50

GGT: 13

The AST has been mildly elevated ever since his transfer here from Great Ormond Street some years ago. A urine sample was normal on microscopy with no bacterial growth. Iron studies showed a normal serum iron and TIBC but a reduced percentage saturation at 42% and a serum ferritin at the lower limit of normal. With these results I have not suggested putting him on any iron supplements.

cont/d. ....

re: Nicholas HIRSCH

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I have written to Mr and Mrs Hirsch giving them the results and suggesting that if they are still worried about Nicholas, and you agree, we could refer him for further investigation by the Paediatricians. In view of his past history, I wonder whether some of his tiredness could be attributed to depression. He says that he is very happy at his new school but, as you know, there have been various family problems in the past.

Yours sincerely

Dr Eleanor Goldman, MB BCh  
Associate Specialist