

Mr O'Connor

FACTOR VIII: MANUFACTURER BLOOD PRODUCTS LABORATORY, ELSTREE

In reply to your minute of the 28th July MSH may wish to know that further action planned is as follows:-

1. A meeting is being arranged by Departmental officials to discuss the supply of coagulation factors (Factor VIII, IX, etc.) by the Blood Products Laboratory (BPL), Elstree, with the BPL Director and the Haemophilia Reference Centre Directors who are responsible for the care of the majority of haemophilic patients in England and Wales.
2. As an added safeguard for BPL coagulation factors Dr Harris is writing to the BPL Director to ask that samples of batches made in the future are sent to the National Institute of Biological Standards and Controls where they will be screened for AIDS antibody before the batches are issued. BPL have also been asked to prepare submissions for licensing their products under the Medicines Act in anticipation of their move into the new factory.
3. Officials will pursue with the Central Blood Laboratory Authority how this important policy issue was not identified by BPL staff and brought to the Authority's attention and why DHSS was given incorrect information.

GRO-C

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HH
Ext **GRO-C**

Copy to

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