

NORTHERN REGIONAL HAEMOPHILIA SERVICE

NEWCASTLE AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY (TEACHING)

THE ROYAL VICTORIA INFIRMARY

QUEEN VICTORIA ROAD NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE1 4LP

HAEMOPHILIA CENTRE

DEPARTMENT OF HAEMATOLOGY

TELEPHONE

NEWCASTLE

25131 Ext. 773

STD 0632

Our Ref: PJH/KEH

21st June, 1978

Dr. J. Craske,
Consultant Virologist,
Public Health Laboratory,
Withington Hospital,
Manchester, M20 8LR

Dear Dr. Craske,

As I explained to you a short while ago, I am a recently appointed Consultant Haematologist here in Newcastle and I am working inter alia closely with Peter Jones in the Haemophilia Department. One of my interests is in the haematology of liver disease. This obviously has relevance to haemophilia and I intend to make a special clinical study of the problems of liver disease in our haemophiliacs.

I shall be observing them regularly for evidence of liver disease and checking biochemical parameters and auto-antibodies and immunoglobulins. I shall take off enough serum for sending to you: once I have got everybody roped in, our routine follow up clinics will generate repeat specimens every six months or a year. Obviously the particular viral interest will be 'Hepatitis' associated viral titres, including I suppose EB, rubella and cytomegalo and others you think pertinent. But I suspect you will be interested in other viruses, and if you can think of anything you want done please ask! I think it is important to perform long-term studies on one population of haemophiliacs - the problem with multicentre investigations is loss of enthusiasm after the first samples have been taken.

You will note that I have written this far without mentioning specifically Australia antigen. Hepatitis B is, of course, important, but I do not want to concentrate just in this area - partly because of problems that must be involved in getting laboratories to co-operate in processing this blood. I aim to look at our Hepatitis B patients separately at some stage.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

Peter Hamilton
Consultant Haematologist and Co Director

c/c Dr. Peter Jones

Encs. First batch of approximately 40 home therapy patients.