

EXTRACT FROM BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE: MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES  
NOTE OF MEETING ON 15.6.88

Factor VIII and Albumin

3. Professor Cash said that the Service was no longer self sufficient in Factor VIII and albumin. The intention was that Mr Donald would write shortly to Health Boards indicating that they would require to purchase of the order of 2.5 - 3 million international units of Factor VIII in 1988/89 (costing approximately 15p per unit on the commercial market) and, if demand stayed the same, 3 million in 1989-90. Also in 1989-90, the Service would be moving to a new high purity albumin product which would lead to a 20 per cent drop in yield. Albumin cost approximately £40 per 400 millilitre bottle. He explained that until recently, in common with one major commercial manufacturer (Cutter), the Service had as a matter of policy manufactured a high yield, low purity product. Following a recent Glasgow University research project which demonstrated the greater efficacy of high yield albumin, the Service had no option to change, even although Professor Cash had doubts about the conclusive nature of the research.

JQH 4/4  
3 NQH 4/10

