

Wd'AM/AH

6th May 1976.

Professor G.I.C. Ingram,
Department of Haematology,
St. Thomas' Hospital,
London SE1 7EH.

Dear Ilsley,

I am concerned by the rapid growth of the consumption of Oxford factor IX concentrate at St. Thomas's because of the possible general implications for the scale upon which the concentrate might be used in future. Ethel Bidwell has told me that St. Thomas's is now using 20 per cent of all the factor IX concentrate made in Plasma Fractionation Laboratory, Oxford, which hitherto has met all requests with a comfortable margin to spare. The increase at St. Thomas's alone shows what would happen if all haemophilia centres began to use the concentrate in a similar way, which I understand is for treating haemophiliacs with inhibitors.

I would therefore like to know urgently:

- (a) whether you are convinced of the effectiveness and safety of this factor IX concentrate for this indication or whether you are still investigating its value and, if so, whether you can give me any estimate of how long it is likely to be before you are able to reach a conclusion.
- (b) whether your requests meanwhile are likely to get even bigger. Last year the quarterly use at St. Thomas's doubled in October-December 1975 and nearly doubled again in January-March 1976.

If St. Thomas's requests grow any more or if other haemophilia centres begin to use Oxford factor IX concentrate in this way, it may become temporarily necessary to decide whether more concentrate should be diverted for this new indication or whether the quantities of concentrate needed to treat Christmas disease should continue to be supplied.

Assuming you confirm the value of factor IX concentrate to treat haemophiliacs with inhibitors, competition for this concentrate can only be eliminated by preparing more. This can be done without difficulty providing any money needed is forthcoming from DHSS and time is allowed for making the necessary arrangements. I am sure you will appreciate that a sudden upsurge in production on the scale consumption at St. Thomas's suggests might be needed, cannot be brought about, as it were, overnight.

I would therefore much appreciate your considered opinion of the value of Oxford factor IX concentrate for treating haemophiliacs with inhibitors, for much depends upon your answer.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

c.c. Dr. S. Waiter
Mr. T. Dutton
Dr. E. Bidwell
Dr. D. Ellis
Mr. L. Vallet
Mr. G.M. Bailey

W. d'A. Maycock.

GRO-C

✓ Mrs. Legge