



THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY
INTERNAL MEMORANDUM
DATE: 16 December 1992 TIME: 2:14pm



TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FROM: Graham Barker

The attached letter from the Chief Medical Officer to Dr Christine Lee sets out the latest position on the use of earmarked AIDS funds for purchasing high purity factor VIII.

This is a further step forward from the Bottomley letter and should allow Centre Directors to purchase high purity factor VIII for their HIV seropositive patients.

This is, as yet, not for wider circulation.

Graham Barker
Deputy General Secretary

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From the Chief Medical Officer

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Dear Christine,

14 December 1992

In my letter dated 4 December I told you that, following your presentation on World AIDS Day I would look again at all the data and consult medical and other colleagues about the use of high purity factor VIII in the treatment of HIV Seropositive haemophiliacs.

I have now had time to consider the issue, and I have concluded that if the treating clinician considers the use of high purity factor VIII products to be of benefit to an HIV infected haemophiliac, then the price differential between high and intermediate purity factor VIII products HIV would be an appropriate use of earmarked AIDS funds. I wish to stress however, that this conclusion in no way represents guidance on whether or not to prescribe a particular product in an individual patient. Such a decision must of course be for the treating clinician. I shall be writing to all Haemophilia Centre Directors on the same lines today.

I am aware that you also wrote to Dr Abrams, until recently Chairman of the Expert Advisory Group on AIDS, about this issue. I hope that you consider this as a reply to that letter also.

I hope this will better clarify the position in a difficult and changing area which I know has been of concern to yourself and others.

Regards

GRO-C

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