



BLOOD PRODUCTS LABORATORY

National Blood Transfusion Service

Director:

R.S. LANE, MD MRCP MRCPath.

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Our Ref: NP/KF

19th March 1985

Regional Transfusion Directors, England & Wales
Haemophilia Reference Centre Directors, England & Wales

Dear Doctor

DISTRIBUTION OF NHS HEAT-TREATED FACTOR VIII
FROM BPL, ELSTREE

I am pleased to be able to advise you of the arrangements now being implemented for the issue of BPL heated FVIII concentrate.

Limited supplies of concentrate are now being made available from BPL on a regional pro-rata basis: the amounts being 50% of what would otherwise have been supplied as unheated concentrate. I have previously indicated to you your regional allocation. These supplies are being sent to Regional Transfusion Centres for allocation and onward distribution to haemophilia treatment centres who have submitted lists of named patients to BPL. As the product is not presently covered by a product licence, treatment centres who have not supplied a list of named patients should be advised to do so, in order that future issue from the Transfusion Centre complies with the necessary restrictions on distribution and use. A statement of Centres who have submitted named patient lists in your Region is attached (as at 18th March 1985).

In most cases, the response to our initial request for named patient submissions has been slow in forthcoming, and in the interests of supplying the heated concentrate as soon as it became available it has not been possible to organise a total named clinician allocation from BPL, as was our original intention.

It is therefore requested that Regional Transfusion Directors liaise with their respective haemophilia treatment centres to determine an agreed system of allocation, wherever possible meeting the restrictions for named patient use as required under the licensing arrangements and regulations.



A UNIT OF THE CENTRAL BLOOD LABORATORIES AUTHORITY

It should also be noted that supplies of the current heated intermediate purity product will last for the next three months or so, when a replacement product will be introduced in June/July. This new improved higher purity concentrate, coded 8Y, has been designed specifically with anti-viral treatment in mind. Clinical trials are now under way; the results so far being encouraging. In addition to improved specific activity (and a consequent improvement in solubility), it is anticipated that this product will tolerate more aggressive conditions for complete viral inactivation.

As I am sure you will appreciate the last few months has been an extremely difficult period for all concerned in the management of haemophilia.

It is to be hoped that the availability of NHS product will now help to ease the situation somewhat.

If you require any further information on BPL products and supply, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

N Pettet

Product Services Manager

North Western Region

Manchester Royal Infirmary	Dr R T Wensley
* Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	-
Lancaster B.T.S.	Dr D Lee
* Leighton Hospital, Crewe	-
* No list of named patients has been submitted to BPL.	