



THE Central Sheffield
University Hospitals



SHEFFIELD HAEMOPHILIA AND THROMBOSIS CENTRE

Prof F E Preston
Prof Ian R Peake (Genetics)
Dr M Makris (Senior Lecturer)
Dr K K Hampton (Senior Lecturer)

Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Glossop Road
Sheffield S10 2JF
Tel: 44 (0)114 271 2122
Fax: 44 (0)114 275 6126

Please reply to: Dr M Makris: Direct line GRO-C
Secretary 0114 271 2500

MM/JHP

16 January 2001

RECEIVED
17 JAN 2001

Mr D G Ferguson
Medical Director, CSUH
Director of Emergency Services
8 Beech Hill Road

Dear David

Re: nvCJD and plasma recipients

For information

Further to my letter from yesterday morning the situation has moved on. We all believed that the UK Haemophilia Society was going to send their nvCJD letter out to all their members on Friday 19 January. We received a fax from the Chairman of the UK Haemophilia Centre Doctors' Organisation at 17.01 on 16 January (yesterday) informing us that the letter from the Haemophilia Society was being posted on 16 January. This essentially means that many of our patients may find out about the nvCJD problem this morning. In view of this, the option of doing nothing, as the 1998 DoH letter suggests, is not acceptable. With the fax from the UKHCDO chairman there was a template for a letter we plan to adopt and post out to all our patients by lunchtime on Thursday 18 January. Once we finalise the letter I will show you a copy. It will go out to all recipients of UK clotting factors and will ask them if they wish to know if they received an implicated batch or not. If they say yes we will get them up and counsel them before telling them whether or not they had the batch. We are trying to develop the same approach between the Children's Hospital and the Hallamshire.

I am hoping that the press do not find out about this for at least a few days more to allow us to deal with the problem locally first. As I have mentioned previously, this is a national problem and most Centres have many more patients affected than us.

Kind regards

Dictated, but not signed, by Dr M Makris
Senior Lecturer/Honorary Consultant in Haematology

World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for the Diagnosis and Comprehensive Care of Patients
with Bleeding and Clotting Disorders

International Training Centre for the World Federation of Haemophilia