

The ROYAL  
HOSPITALS

The Northern Ireland Haemophilia  
Comprehensive Care Centre

Department of Haematology  
Tel 01232 240503 ext **GRO-C**  
Fax 01232 325272



January 13, 1998

*File Channan  
OKATP*

Ms Sue Metcalfe  
Coagulation Specialist  
Bio Products Laboratory  
Dagger Lane  
Elstree  
Herts WD6 3BX

Dear Ms Metcalfe

Further to your visit yesterday, I should like to thank you for taking the trouble to come and discuss all the many problems related to blood products. I thought I should write to confirm our discussions of yesterday.

I feel it was most important, indeed imperative, that the UKHCDO took such a positive stand in terms of the potential risk relating to transmission of prion disease in blood products. Thankfully no person with haemophilia or an inherited bleeding disorder has been infected by new variant CJD through receipt of blood products. It is difficult with the lack of scientific evidence truly to assess the risk. However, I think in respect of this infection that the Haemophilia Directors have taken wise steps at early stage in the proceedings.

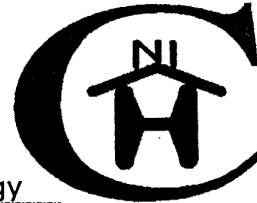
In this Centre there seems to have been little interest in the possibilities of becoming infected by new variant CJD!!! I have discussed the receipt of plasma-derived products from UK sourced plasma with some of the patients. They remain adamant that they do not wish to receive plasma-derived products from American plasma. Therefore, as I indicated to you yesterday, I have no intention of changing clinical practice until a full meeting is held with all the users attending the Haemophilia Centre. This will take place during the next few weeks. Unless I learn to the contrary, there will only be a minimal change in our plasma-derived requirements for the next financial year.

The change will arise due to transferring approximately 20 patients onto recombinant products. Apart from this category of patient, there is not likely to be any substantial change in product usage during the next 12 months.

The **ROYAL**  
HOSPITALS

The Northern Ireland Haemophilia  
Comprehensive Care Centre

Department of Haematology  
Tel 01232 240503 ext **GRO-C**  
Fax 01232 325272



January 13, 1998

2.

Ms Sue Metcalfe, Coagulation Specialist, BPL

I will keep you informed of any alteration in policy.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

E E Mayne  
Consultant Haematologist/  
Director, N Ireland Haemophilia  
Comprehensive Care Centre

✓ c c Dr C A Ludlam, Chairman, UKHCDO, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary  
c c Professor Ian Franklin, Medical Director, SNBTS, Ellen's Glen Road,  
Edinburgh EH17 7QT  
c c Professor C A Lee, Royal Free Hospital, Pond Street, London NW3  
7EH

PATRON: HRH The Duchess of Kent

The Royal Victoria Hospital  
The Royal Maternity Hospital  
The Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children

THE ROYAL GROUP OF HOSPITALS AND DENTAL HOSPITAL  
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST

Grosvenor Road, Belfast BT12 6BA Northern Ireland  
Telephone: 01232 240503

HCDO0000133\_209\_0002