

Strictly confidential

Note for file:

I took a call from Frank Hill this afternoon. His specific query was whether any batch of factor VII had been manufactured from pools including any of the affected donors. I was able to give a guarded "no" in response to his question. I had to qualify this by explaining that, in the case of some of the early donations (pre-1992), full tracing was taking longer, but that no derived product would have been available for use in the last two to three years.

He explained (guardedly) that the basis of his concern was a factor VII deficient female patient, who had been last treated with factor VII "about two years ago", and had been hospitalised with symptoms consistent with CJD. Diagnosis was not confirmed, but other obvious explanations for the patient's condition had been ruled out. MRI would be performed next week; brain biopsy would be considered. He would attempt discreetly to determine the batch number - I explained that this would give us more certainty in excluding the recently identified donations by allowing an independent search.

I don't know whether Frank will feel obliged to discuss this patient on Thursday - I suspect not. He is very conscious of the irrevocable damage that could be caused by premature disclosure of such information, particularly if the diagnosis is not confirmed.

Irrespective of our being able to demonstrate a link between any of the affected donations and this patient's treatment, a confirmed diagnosis of nv-CJD in a patient treated comparatively recently with a fractionated plasma product of UK origin would be an absolute disaster. I will try to speak with Frank again tomorrow.

GRO-C

Terry Sigafoos
18 November 1997

Albumin - made from 1992 Liverpool donation
50-100 bottles KABI Replinate Precursor
from our plasma.
sent to KABI as exipient for F.VIII