8 August 1985

The Royal College of Pathologists
2 Carlton House Terrace
LONDON SW1Y 5AF

SUPRA-REGIONAL SERVICES: HAEMOPHILIA REFERENCE CENTRES, POISONS UNITS

passed on the request in your letter of the 3 July for
information about similar services for haemophilia available in
Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. I subsequently spoke to you
about the detail of the information that you required. I am sorry
it has taken so long to provide you with an answer.

I should first point out that neither Scotland nor Northern Ireland
need to buy commercial blood products with which to treat their
haemophiliac patients. Sufficient blood products are produced for the
two countries at the Blood Products Laboratory at Liberton. This of
course reduces quite considerably their treatment cost. England and
Wales are dependant on commercial sources for up to sixty per cent
of their Factor VIII.

Scotland has two Haemophilia Centres which perhaps are regarded more
as centres of excellence than Reference Centres. One is in Edinburgh
and the other in Glasgow. Both these centres (and the other three
centres in Scotland) are funded by the Area Boards. There is no
direct funding from SHHD. The estimated number of haemophiliac
patients varying from severe to mild in Scotland is about four hundred.

In Wales there is one Haemophilia Reference Centre in Cardiff and
three other centres. The Reference Centre at Cardiff deals predomi-
nantly with Welsh patients sixty per cent of whom come from adjoining
districts and fifteen per cent from other districts in Wales. The
Reference Centre is not an identified Regional Service and is funded
through the District. The District can make bids to Welsh Office for additional central funding as can any other District for their services of a special nature. Three hundred and fifty patients are registered at the Cardiff centre, about a hundred and twenty of these are severely affected cases.

In Northern Ireland there is one haemophilia centre which serves the whole country. This again is funded through the area not through central funds. I hope that this is sufficient information for your needs. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any other points which might be helpful.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]