Dear Drs. Foster, Cuthbertson, Perry, McIntosh:

We and many other physicians and researchers are in total agreement with your letter [Lancet, July 2, 1988]. We certainly believe and know, that properly dry heat treated Factor VIII concentrate is a safe product and is by far the most economical product. Needless and unfortunately there is now a new expensive method of inactivation of viruses employing potentially toxic chemicals "solvent-detergent" method. Residual amounts of tri-butyl phosphate which has a lethal dose (LD50) of 100 mg/kg is found in residual amounts of mcg/ml in each bottle (to be published). In a severe hemophiliac or for major surgery, a significant mg quantity of this toxic chemical is introduced. Unbelievably, this method costs several times more than heat treatment! and of course because the manufacturing process is much more complex than dry heat treatment, is prone to many errors and problems in quality control.

We applaud your letter, as well as your scientific sincerity and honesty. It is important that people like yourself who are using the dry heat treatment method publish their positive findings and viewpoints. It is only with such letters as yours that needlessly costly and potentially
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dangerous viral inactivation methods will be prevented from reaching the marketplace.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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