British Blood Transfusion Society

POSTER ABSTRACTS

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Towards a High-Yield, High Quality Factor VIII Concentrate

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Scottish Factor VIII concentrate is prepared as an intermediate-purity product because of the higher yield obtainable in comparison to high-purity methods. Although improvements in quality are desirable, particularly a reduction in fibrinogen content and removal of the infectivity risk, these must be achieved without major loss of yield if self-sufficiency is to be maintained.

A process aimed at achieving this has been developed, combining a number of original features:

1. Continuous plasma thawing to maximise FVIII recovery in cryoprecipitate (Foster et al Vox Sang 42, 180-189, 1982).

Heating conditions for viral inactivation have been carefully defined, using a range of modelviruses, to attain a viral kill comparable to that achieved in the pasteurisation of albumin solutions.

Factor VIII, fibrinogen and other components of the final product have been analysed by radioimmunoassay. No immunological differences have been observed between heated and non-heated products, suggesting that the conformational integrity of the proteins has been retained.