



21st May 1997

Joan Shenton
Meditel Productions
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The Brunswick Centre
London
WC1N 1QE

Dear Joan

Thank you for your faxes of May 16th and May 19th.

David and I suggest that the development should include the following.

1. Trace UK haemophiliac children who have only received fully heat treated factor 8 but have tested positive. If there are none, test them now. We will have to be ethically extremely careful to bring the parents and the medical teams involved completely on board. Please refer your plans to me and the Channel Four lawyer attached to this development before you proceed to test. Do not at this point proceed with Ottawa or Montreal.
2. Investigate the Scottish Western Blot situation as laid out in your point three of the fax of May 16th.
3. Look for other UK examples of positive to negative. If necessary test long term survivors who have not been exposed to e.g. AZT. Does George Hamer truly fit this story or was this a case of a cock up rather than changing test parameters?

I feel that asking Stefan to do his lab test is of no particular worth at this stage. If we want to do it we can do it during commission assuming we go to commission.

David thinks filming now would be inappropriate. Taking samples can be re done afterwards, (with the possible exception of the children) unless you need them to prove where the blood came from which seems rather too forensic to me.

Can you readjust your budget with this in mind. Please can you bear in mind that we do not pay for work that you carried out while you were not under contract to us!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francesca O'Brien'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'F' and a long, sweeping tail.

FRANCESCA O'BRIEN
Deputy Commissioning Editor
Current Affairs