F VIII Inhibitors Treated with Low-Dose F VIII

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5 haemophilia patients with F VIII inhibitor and who are known to be high responders, have been subjected to regular infusions of F VIII during several months. The aim has been to establish if low doses (3–56 U of F VIII/kg b.w./week) would help to eliminate the F VIII inhibitor. All patients have had falling concentrations of F VIII inhibitor during this treatment, but at present none of the inhibitors have disappeared.

In 1 patient (PFa) the inhibitor has previously been as high as 16 Bethesda U/ml plasma. At present, however, he has responded with only low concentrations of inhibitor. In September 1980, he was challenged with 15,000 U of high-purity F VIII concentrate (Armour) to treat the bleeding episode. During this treatment his F VIII activity was kept around 100% of normal for several days. In spite of this, a reduction of the inhibitor concentration was observed in the following weeks.

Patient JLTo was challenged in late April 1980 with high-purity F VIII concentrate (Hyland) to treat a bleeding episode when the inhibitor was low after several months of regular infusions of cryoprecipitate. A normal F VIII activity was established for several days. Shortly afterwards the inhibitor rose sharply. It was speculated that the change of F VIII source might have induced the booster effect. At present the patient receives cryoprecipitate and high-purity F VIII concentrate at regular intervals. When the inhibitor returns to low levels it is hoped that the patient will tolerate heavy doses of high-purity F VIII concentrates and not respond with a new peak of F VIII inhibitor.