

Ref: 1M51A

my husband - for wife 95/11
 Family agreement to the 183
 CJD conditions I will be
 involved in (X) and will check
 you posted on developments

IN STRICT CONFIDENCE

Letter
 6/1/93

Dr McGovern

From: Dr A Wight

Date: 5 January 1993

Copies: Dr Metters
 Dr Skinner
 Dr Pickles
 Dr Morris
 Mr Murray

Tom Harkes
 Royal Charles
 Shd. be
 aware. 2.

TRANSMISSION OF ALZHEIMER-TYPE PLAQUES TO PRIMATES

1. CMO will wish to be aware that a meeting was held at DH yesterday, 4 January, to discuss the above findings. It was chaired by Professor Murray (Chairman of the MRC Co-ordinating Committee on Research in the Spongiform Encephalopathies in Man), and attended by relevant experts in the fields of Neurology, Neuropathology, molecular biology, amyloid biochemistry, and the spongiform encephalopathies, and by representatives of the MRC and AFRC.
2. Briefly, the meeting agreed that:
 - i) Dr Ridley et al's findings of experimental induction of β amyloid in primates were valid, interesting and a significant advance in the understanding of neurodegenerative disorders;
 - ii) there were no immediate implications for the public health, and no further safeguards were thought to be necessary at present; and
 - iii) additional research was *desirable*, both epidemiological and at the molecular level. Possible avenues are being followed up by DH and the MRC, but the details will require further discussion.