BSE - SOUTHWOOD WORKING PARTY
VETERINARY MEDICINES

As discussed I have spoken to Reg Cameron in the Medicines Unit. The
following is a summary of the state of play.

The policy has not been finalised yet, but the risks of BSE are included
in the 2nd edition of the MAFF guidelines on the production of
biological products. This has not yet been published, but I understand
it will be in the near future.

The Biologicals Committee will re-examine the possible risk posed by
various tissues/ingredients used in the production of biologicals as
part of developing a policy.

At present applications for licences for biological products are viewed
with BSE in mind and advice is given on changing the materials etc used
in their production, to minimise the risk, where practical. An example
of this is emergency (autogenous) vaccines which are used within the
same herd from which the materials for the vaccine were derived.

The other activity is that a number of companies have sought general
advice on BSE and the possible risks posed by their products.

In general it could be said that the Medicines Unit are taking a common
sense approach to this potential problem.

Please let me know if you feel we need more details.

Mr. A. Lawrence

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4 November 1988