

FILE 132

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CMO

From PS(L)

October 1994

copies: SoS

Mr Bridges
Dr Jones**THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATION CJD SURVEILLANCE UNIT**

I have seen the revised section of this report which you successfully negotiated with Professor Will. I am grateful for your skill in obtaining his agreement to these presentational changes which will, I am sure, go some way to reduce the risk of damaging quotations being made out of context.

Although this section is much improved, I am still concerned that there needs to be an explicit caution at the beginning of the report about the difficulty of interpreting statistics based on such small numbers, and this caution needs to be repeated at intervals within the text. Do you think it would be possible for you to ask Professor Will to include this, please?

I should also welcome your views on the use of phrases such as "major increase in the risk of CJD" and "strong evidence of an association" (both on page 20).

JFC

94/10.00/1.1