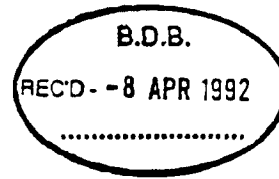


Mr Burgess



Note for Mr B D Bramley

7th April 1992

Transdermal Nicotine

I refer to the papers circulated by Ulrich Herter. I also discussed this issue direct with R&D colleagues in BATCF, Hamburg on Friday 3rd April

Briefly, the views of R&D Department, BATCo are currently as follows:

There have been numerous attempts to segregate smokers in various ways but it is generally agreed that there are a number of reasons why people smoke and a variety of products are used eg cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff and wet tobacco. Thus, the extent to which smokers might prefer the nicotine absorption pattern of cigarettes rather than that of patches may not be the most important question especially in view of the probable absorption dynamics of pipes and cigars. Smoking cigarettes and using other tobacco products is an entirely different custom and habit from taking nicotine alone from a patch; an appropriate analogy would be substituting coffee by caffeine tablets. While not totally mutually exclusive there is not a lot in common. There are additional questions on the intrinsic safety/danger of nicotine patches which in any event may need licensing by medical authorities in some, if not most countries including the UK.

As indicated we are hoping that the efficacy or otherwise of these patches in delivery of nicotine (with attendant changes in vigilance performance) will be established in smokers independantly by Professor D M Warburton (University of Reading).

In short, BAT would have to consider adopting the role of a pharmaceutical company if it were to market such products.

However, we are currently maintaining a dialogue in this area, for example, with Stovic Resources, for it is clear that Pharmaceutical Companies are spending large sums on the Research and Development of Nicotine Patches.

R E Thornton
bdb:ac

- c.c. Mr J Remiszewski
- Mr G Burgess
- Dr L Rudge
- Mr G A Read

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