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SOUTH WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

King Square House, 26/27 King Square, Bristol. BS2 8EF Telephone: Bristol (0272) 423271 & 428371

My Ref. MAP/JC

Your Ref.

If you telephone please ask for Dr. Pitman

Date 5th February 1986

Dr M G Thorne
Torbay Hospital
Lawes Bridge
Torquay
TQ2 7AA

Dear Dr Thorne,

Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery Advisory Sub Group

As you know it is intended that the expansion of cardiac surgery operations at the BRI should increase the number available to 600. In drawing up arrangements for funding it is becoming apparent that we need to have some idea of whether current referral patterns are likely to be substantially altered. It would be helpful if your Committee could comment by the end of February on the likelihood of more patients being referred from Districts outside of Avon to Bristol when the extra capacity becomes available. Attached are copies of the minutes of two meetings the latter of which unfortunately no Cardiologists were able to attend from Bristol which give the background to this question. It is perhaps fair to add that Bristol and Weston, because of their RAWP position find themselves in considerable difficulties and the District Management wish to assess whether it is possible to prevent a disproportionate amount of the new capacity being used by Avon residents to the detriment of residents outside of the District.

Dr Reynolds would be grateful to hear from you by the end of February or if this is not possible perhaps you could let him know when you can have a reply available. Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

M A Pitman
Specialist in Community Medicine

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