


WATCHTOWER
Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc.
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[REDACTED] June 13, 2001

TO ALL HOSPITAL LIAISON COMMITTEES

Dear Brothers:

We are pleased to provide some additional instructions for using the new video *No Blood—Medicine Meets the Challenge*, which was announced in the April 10, 2001, letter to all congregations. An initial supply of the new video is enclosed. Thereafter, you may request additional supplies through the normal congregation arrangement.

As mentioned in the April 10, 2001, letter to all congregations, this 30-minute video has been specially prepared for the non-Witness viewing public. Therefore, a campaign for a wide distribution of this video to medical professionals is not necessary. However, you may pursue opportunities to show the video during your regular presentations to ethics committees, nurses, residents, medical students, and hospital sponsored continuing education programs. After showing the program, a brief explanation about the work of the HLC and of Jehovah's Witnesses' position on blood should be made if possible. Allowing time for questions after the presentation should prove beneficial as well. If after seeing the video, a medical professional requests a copy, you may provide them one. You may also make the video available to bloodless medicine and surgery program coordinators who request a copy for their in-service education programs.

As you know, the *2001 Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses* announced a new video *Transfusion—Alternative Strategies—Simple, Safe, Effective*. It is presently being distributed in Europe. This video was specifically prepared with physicians in mind. The video includes interviews with some of the world's leading surgeons and demonstrations of techniques used in bloodless surgery. We will provide you additional direction when it becomes available in the United States.

In both of these videos, the comments of the non-Witness medical authorities are supportive of our position. However, as the April 10, 2001, letter says, the doctors "are presenting their own opinions, and we may not agree with everything they say." Additionally, although actual medical footage and computer animations may help viewers understand what some of the transfusion alternatives and procedures are and how they work, whether to accept or reject such alternatives is left up to each individual Witness to decide.—See *The Watchtower*, issues of June 15, 2000, pages 29-31, and October 15, 2000, pages 30-1.

Please view the new video, *No Blood—Medicine Meets the Challenge*, as another tool to be used when the circumstances warrant it. Carefully watch the program several times to become familiar with its contents. We will appreciate receiving any outstanding experiences as you use the video. Please report the number of videos distributed by January 1, 2002. Our prayers are for Jehovah's continued blessing on your work.

Your brothers in Jehovah's service,


OF NEW YORK, INC.

HOSPITAL INFORMATION SERVICES

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