



WATCH TOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

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TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN BRITAIN

Dear Brothers:

We are pleased to announce the release of a DVD entitled *Transfusion Alternatives—Documentary Series*. This DVD contains the three previously released video programmes reported on in the *2002 Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses*. In all three videos, well-known clinicians contrast the effectiveness of transfusion alternative strategies with procedures that use blood. As a result, these programmes have done much to convince others of the reasonableness and effectiveness of 'bloodless' medicine and surgery.

The first video in the series is entitled *Transfusion Alternative Strategies—Simple, Safe, Effective*. This was designed for surgeons, anaesthetists, and medical students, and it contains numerous surgical scenes. Until now, this programme was available only to Hospital Liaison Committees. It remains unavailable to publishers as a videocassette. The second video is entitled *Transfusion Alternative Health Care—Meeting Patient Needs and Rights*. It was designed especially for medical journalists, health officials, social workers, and the judiciary. As the title suggests, this programme considers how to care for patients' medical needs while also recognizing their legal rights. Additionally, 'bloodless' surgical techniques are shown to be cost-effective. Finally, the third video entitled *No Blood—Medicine Meets the Challenge* was designed primarily for the general public.

Additional features on the DVD include menu pages, short preview clips of each programme, and sound tracks in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Spanish, and Russian.

While the primary distribution of these programmes remains with brothers who serve on Hospital Liaison Committees, please feel free to share it with Bible students, unbelieving mates or relatives, teachers, workmates, and schoolmates. Additionally, many General Practitioners (GPs) have shown interest in this subject (for example, accepting a copy of the January 8, 2000, issue of *Awake!* discussing 'Bloodless Surgery'). If any elders are aware of such GPs we suggest that the Service Overseer arrange for a suitable publisher to make a presentation to these GPs whose surgery is in the congregation's territory. Of course, individual Christians must bear the responsibility of making decisions regarding the use of blood fractions or of one's own blood during medical procedures.—See *The Watchtower*, issues of June 15, 2000, pages 29-31, and October 15, 2000, pages 30-31.

Please note that this DVD is only available in the NTSC colour standard. It should play on all DVD computer systems, although it may be necessary to adjust some DVD player settings for NTSC playback. While it should be fine when played on most PAL televisions, some older sets may exhibit a distorted picture. In such instances, a multi-wire SCART cable between the player and the older television set may eliminate this problem.

Congregations may submit their DVD requests at the time of their next literature request. Until these special request items are available and shipments made, they will appear as "Pending" on the congregation packing lists. Other language groupings on subsequent DVD releases will be announced as they become available.

Your brothers and fellow servants,

Watch Tower B. & J. Society
OF BRITAIN