

FDA plan on no-cost AIDS drug 10/9/89

by James Brooks

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to approve within the next two weeks a plan for wide distribution to AIDS patients, at no cost, of the unapproved but promising experimental drug, dideoxyinosine (DDI).

Under the plan, the drug maker, Bristol-Myers Co., will distribute the drug at no cost to AIDS patients who cannot tolerate the approved AIDS drug AZT, or who do poorly on AZT and for those who do not qualify for a new round of government-sponsored research trials on DDI.

In early tests on humans, DDI, a chemical relative to AZT, was found to block the progress of AIDS with few of AZT's

harsh side effects. Bristol-Myers, which is developing DDI under a license from the National Institutes of Health, agreed to distribute the drug free of charge and prior to FDA approval at the request of AIDS activists. Federal law prohibits the sale of unapproved drugs.

Persons with AIDS also won a victory when on Sept. 7 the U.S. Senate adopted S. 933, the Americans with Disabilities Act. Under the provisions of the measure the definition of physical disability includes those with HIV infection or AIDS. Committee consideration in the House is under way.

On a related issue, the next installment of The AIDS Quarterly, a public television documentary, will air on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 8:00 p.m. EST over most public television stations.

*AIDS TASK FORCE / CONGRATS ON WORK THEY HAVE
DONE IN THIS AREA / AND RESPONDING TO PEOPLE
WHO FOR THOSE IN NEED*



City of Cambridge

9.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 16, 1989

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM

ORDERED: That this City Council go on record extending its sincere appreciation to Jennifer Burgess-Wolfrum and the AIDS Task Force for their positive interaction throughout the Cambridge community in an effort to provide much needed hope, understanding and counseling to those individuals who have been diagnosed with having this devastating illness.

In City Council October 16, 1989.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

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Order # 9

S-674
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