

ACT UP

AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power

ACTION NOW ON AIDS DRUGS!

AZT:

We DEMAND that

- ▶ AZT be approved by federal authorities immediately for people with 500 T4 cells or less, with or without symptoms, in line with the recent approval by the US FDA;
- ▶ The official dose of AZT be lowered immediately from 1200 mg per day to 600 mg per day, in line with the recent US FDA decision, and in view of documented scientific evidence demonstrating equivalent effectiveness to the high dose and decreased toxicity;
- ▶ The current "high risk" trial of AZT in Australia be terminated immediately, and those patients receiving a placebo be offered the drug;
- ▶ Those on the current "low risk" trial taking the inactive placebo be immediately offered the active drug; placebo controlled trials of AZT are unethical;
- ▶ That the federal authorities take a proactive posture in granting swift approval for changes in the indications for AZT use, in line with the US and other countries.

DRUG TRIALS:

We DEMAND to know

- ▶ Why trials of the antiviral drug DDI, mooted for December 1989, have not yet begun, and may not begin until at least the end of May;
- ▶ Why promised trials of other drugs and their combinations, such as AZT-alpha interferon, GM-CSF, DDC, and CD4 have not materialised.

We DEMAND that

- ▶ ACTION be taken immediately to rectify the current lack of clinical trials of experimental therapies. In the US there are currently 71 drugs and their combinations in clinical studies, compared to less than a handful in Australia;
- ▶ New clinical trials be broad and accessible, incorporating standardised, advanced designs using up-to-date markers of disease progression such as p24 antigenemia and plasma viremia rather than inhumane endpoints such as death or development of an opportunistic infection;
- ▶ The IPU (Individual Patient Usage) scheme for compassionate access to experimental therapies outside of clinical trials be expanded in a similar vein to the "parallel track" being undertaken by US authorities, guaranteeing that no Australian requiring treatment is denied access for reasons of exclusion from trial protocols, geographical isolation, or any other reason;
- ▶ Women, IV Drug users and other groups are equally represented in clinical trials.