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Subject: Today's Times: vCJD and blood products

Charles,

We discussed. On today's Times story Lord Hunt has requested:

- very strong lines in response to this story (I understand from Charles that there are some strong lines on what action BPL have taken on this issue over the last month)
- that we respond to Professor Banner's concerns today if possible (I understand that CMO has spoken to him). Lord Hunt does understand that there is limited action we can take here, but he is concerned that we try and smooth things over with him.
- that we have lines ready should the issue of CSM advice and plasma sourced from France used in the production of medicinal products be linked to this story.

Grateful if you could liaise with Maria Murray over the above.

Many thanks - I realise you are currently working on PNQ briefing.

Emma