



Charles Lister
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Sent by: Charles Lister/HSD2

To: Nadine Smith/COMMS/DOH/GB@ **GRO-C**

cc:

Subject: Re: FW: BBC Watchdog Healthcheck

Nadine

Sorry it's taken a while but I have an answer:

- the Haemophilia Soc & UKHCDO initially made representations wanting recombinant for all
- they signed up to the proposal to make it available just for children and issued a press release welcoming the Government's decision, although did not see this as the end of the story
- H. Soc content at that stage for just children because of very restricted availability of recombinant at that time
- Children chosen because not exposed to virally (HIV/HCV) contaminated product in early 80s. Also because treated with large prophylactic doses of clotting factor when very young, more vulnerable.
- Now that there is greater availability of recombinant - with availability set to increase over next 4-5 years - H.Soc and UKHCDO now asking Government to make it available to all haemophilia patients on a phased programme over next x years. Government considering.
- If go ahead given, would need to develop an implementation plan with H.Soc and UKHCDO - including agreement on timescales and priority groups.

A further factor. 1st generation of recombinants still contain human albumin and animal derivatives. 2nd generation, coming on stream in next 2 years, purely synthetic. Latter type preferred by haemophiliacs.

Hope this helps. Let's discuss.

Charles