

Hm 21

Ushma Patel

From: R M Gutowski

Date: 28 October 2003

Cc: Robert Finch
Vicki King
Jill Taylor
Zubeda Seedat

MICHAEL CONNARTY MEETING: 29 OCTOBER 2003

1. Further to my submission of 27 October I had a meeting with the Haemophilia Society yesterday during which they expressed their satisfaction with the way the recombinant roll out was progressing. They may well raise it at the Michael Connarty Meeting therefore PS(PH) may find the following background of use.
2. In February of this year the Department announced an extra £88m over the next three years to provide synthetic clotting factors for haemophilia patients. This funding will extend the availability of synthetic clotting products to adult haemophilia patients aged 22 and above. Since the announcement we have been working with key stakeholders including the Haemophilia Society, in the Recombinant Factors Working Group to design a programme for rolling out access to these products to the older age groups. This is in line with the decision to provide non-plasma based products to haemophilia patients under the age of 16 in 1998. By March 2006 the vast majority of patients should be receiving the new treatments.
3. Since the announcement we have been calculating the number of haemophiliacs per centre and the treatment they are on in order for PASA to be able to place the national contract to provide the required amount of recombinant clotting factors. This will then allow us to make the necessary cash limit adjustment for each PCT. The contracts should be awarded this week and once the clotting factors arrive can be allocated. The good news is that because of the ways the contracts have been awarded it looks as though patients up to the age of 41 will benefit in the first year. It had previously been calculated that only up to age 36 will be covered. The Haemophilia Society are particularly pleased about this and may make comment at the meeting.
4. We have also been told that Chris Hodgeson (the Chairman of the Haemophilia Society) will also attend the meeting.

R M GUTOWSKI
PH6.6
Rm 633B SKH
Ext **GRO-C**