

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 September 2007 10:22
To: Natalie Bemrose
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Drugs for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension.....

Dear Natalie

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the assessment report for the above appraisal.

I wish to confirm that the Department of Health has no substantive comments to make, regarding this consultation. However, the following observations (of which I think you should be aware) were submitted by a policy colleague:

"If iloprost turns out be not cost-effective, and other agents are used in the first instance, that would be fine, though perhaps with the caveat that iloprost should be available to those patients who don't respond adequately to other agents. To make it completely unavailable would, in our opinion, be a mistake. we feel that one is limited enough in what one can do for these severely affected patients with such rare and serious conditions, and transplantation is rarely an option because of lack of organs. In our view, all options should be available but applied in a managed way, with most cost-effective first".

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
NICE Liaison Team
Department of Health
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