## CONFIDENTIAL

9<sup>th</sup> November 2010

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Dear

## Patient Access Scheme - Mepact - osteosarcoma

I am writing to confirm the Department of Health's position on the revised Patient Access Scheme (PAS) arrangements that have been proposed by Takeda for Mepact (mifamurtide) in the treatment of non-metastatic osteosarcoma indicated in children, adolescents and young adults.

I understand that Takeda have proposed the simple discount PAS, the simplest type of scheme, on the condition that the level of discount offered through the scheme should remain confidential and should not be published in final NICE guidance.

The Department is content in this case for the confidential PAS proposal to be considered in the appraisal of Mepact. NICE must of course be satisfied that sufficient information can be communicated to stakeholders to explain an appraisal recommendation. In this regard, what constitutes a sufficient level of transparency is a matter for the Institute to determine in developing its guidance. In addition, the NHS must have access to the discount price when final NICE guidance is made available, so Trusts and commissioners are able to properly account for the PAS.

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Yours sincerely

Head of Clinical and Cost Effectiveness, Medicines, Pharmacy and Industry Group