



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Dr. Alan Macdonald
Chair
Scottish Medicines Consortium

Health and Sport Committee
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Dear Alan,

Health and Sport Committee – Supply and Demand for Medicines

Thank you for giving evidence to the Health and Sport Committee of the Scottish Parliament on 21 January 2020. The Committee very much appreciated your time and the information which you provided.

During the meeting, details of the number of appeals for particular drugs broken down by health board area were not known and the Committee would appreciate details of this.

The Committee would also appreciate further detail on the horizon scanning activities of the Scottish Medicines Consortium and how current processes are preparing for the next generation of medicines.

The issue of use of licensed medicines for unlicensed indications was raised during the meeting and the Committee is interested in whether the SMC has considered its role in this scenario and what plans the organisation has in this area.

Outcomes and value based pricing was mentioned throughout the Committee's meeting and the Committee would welcome the SMC perspective on whether this should be adopted, how it could be assessed and what would be the main challenges in doing so. The Committee would also welcome your view on what should happen if the outcomes (based on the actual patient experience of taking the medicine), once assessed, differ from the original claims by the drug manufacturer and any role for the SMC in assessing outcomes from a clinical and cost effectiveness perspective.

On behalf of the Committee, I request a response to this letter by 26 February 2020 and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lewis Macdonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue underline for the first letter 'L'.

Lewis Macdonald
Convener, Health and Sport Committee