

18 AUG 2011

EDWARD MILIBAND MP  
Member of Parliament for Doncaster North



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence  
MidCity Place  
71 High Holborn  
London  
WC1V 6NA

12<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Ref: DW\_NICE110812.docx

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Fingolimod Drug**

I have been contacted by several of my constituents who have told me of their concerns that the drug Fingolimod could be withdrawn from use in the United Kingdom.

My constituents have asked why the drug is being withdrawn when it has been shown that it helps the sufferers of Multiple Sclerosis lead a more normal life by preventing relapses? They feel that it is being withdrawn to save the NHS money, but say that this shouldn't be the case and that if a drug helps a patient it should be readily available.

I understand that there is currently consultation taking place in respect of Fingolimod, and the matter is to be considered again by the NICE appraisal committee in October. I would be most grateful if you would take note of the concerns that have been raised by my constituents.

I would also really appreciate your observations on the drug Fingolimod and its future use in the United Kingdom, so that I may respond accordingly to my constituents. I do hope that you don't mind.

Many thanks for your assistance and I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Miliband".

The Rt Hon Edward Miliband  
MP for Doncaster North