

9, Kershope Drive,
Oakwood,
Derby.
DE21 2TQ
8th February 2018

Dear Pauline,

In September 2014 I was diagnosed by the Royal Derby Hospital with mantle cell lymphoma, a rare non-Hodgkin lymphoma. There is currently no cure for this cancer, but the innovative treatments that are being developed around the world hold great promise for me and other people living with it.

I understand that your government intends to withdraw from Euratom as part of our exit from the European Union. Could you advise me what the impact of this decision will be on the availability of medical radioisotopes used in the treatment of my condition, for example, during a PET/CT scan.

Furthermore, I also understand that the European Medicines Agency (EMA) has decided to relocate from London and that as part of our exit from the European Union, alternative arrangements to approve medicines will need to be made. Could you reassure me that plans have been enacted to ensure that approvals will not be disrupted after our exit, and that there will be no additional waiting time for new treatments to be approved compared to citizens of the other 27 European Union countries? This is clearly a concern, as other countries (including Canada and Australia) that operate national approval systems typically approve new medicines at least 6 months behind the EMA, due to the much smaller size of their pharmaceutical markets compared with that of the European Union. Such a delay could mean the difference between life and death for patients like me.

Because the answers to both of these questions are of general interest to all of your constituents, I would be happy for you to publish this letter and your response on your website. In turn I shall be happy to do the same, to ensure the widest possible understanding of your position and that of your government within the Mid-Derbyshire constituency you serve.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Holyoake.