

**Mark Drakeford AC/AM**  
**Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol**  
**Minister for Health and Social Services**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

Eich cyf/Your ref: P-04-571  
Ein cyf/Our ref: MD/01359/15

William Powell AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

20 July 2015

Dear William,

I have now received a response from Jane Ellison MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Public Health about the treatment of pernicious anaemia through a UK licensed oral preparation of adequate dose in a single tablet.

The Department of Health Medicines, Pharmacy and Industry Group (MPIG) is looking at the possibility of persuading pharmaceutical companies to introduce new formulations. I have been given no indication of when these discussions will be undertaken and it is likely to take some time. I will keep you updated on developments.

In the meantime, my officials will ask the Haematology National Specialist Advisory Group to write to the service emphasising the need for a collaborative approach for those patients who feel they would benefit from an increased frequency of dosing. They will also ask whether there is a need for additional guidance in Wales in addition to that provided by the British Committee for Standards in Haematology on pernicious anaemia and B12 deficiency.

Best wishes,

**Mark Drakeford AC/AM**  
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**Minister for Health and Social Services**