Your Name

Address

MP Name

Address

17th October 2022

Dear MP Name,

I am writing to draw your attention to the ongoing issue of the lack of provision of Evusheld – a drug that protects vulnerable people who cannot respond to vaccines – for UK citizens. The government promised, when it lifted all Covid protections, that it would “protect the most vulnerable”. Clearly, without Evusheld we are not using every tool in the kit to achieve this end.

Please could you write to the Secretary of State for Health on my behalf and urge her to reconsider the Evusheld decision? We need to roll out this treatment in the next few weeks to protect the most vulnerable against the coming winter wave.

Further, I wanted to make you aware that today, the 17th October, marks the start of a national media campaign conducted by 16 national charities and the patient group Evusheld for the UK. The campaign begins with full-page press adverts in *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Times*, *The Sun*, *The Independent*, *The Metro*, and 25x4 adverts in *The Daily Mail*, *The Evening Standard* and *The Guardian.* These advertisements highlight that up to 500,000 immunocompromised individuals in the UK are currently being denied Evusheld by the UK government. They also show that UK citizens are the last in line to receive a treatment being used by every other G7 nation (and many others). This advertising space has been donated by the newspapers, demonstrating the depth and breadth of support for this issue across the entire political spectrum.

The #Forgotten500k campaign is set to run and run over the coming weeks and months. We have support from media outlets, including podcasts from Andy Coulson’s “Crisis What Crisis?” series, and a Tortoise Media “Think In” event. Major news coverage of this issue on national television and radio will continue, with national media from every point of the political spectrum backing our calls. We have BBC Breakfast, BBC National News, Radio 4’s Inside Health, BBC Newsnight and regional BBC, among others, running items. The campaign will also feature on all prominent digital and social media platforms. We are also seeing increasing support from ever-growing numbers of MPs on all sides of the house on this matter.

You will no doubt be aware of the letter sent to all MPs by the Minister for Health, the Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, providing an update on this issue. This followed the very well-attended debate on this issue in Parliament on 12th October. We also know that Evusheld, as a protective measure, has previously had support from the new Chancellor. Indeed, your colleague, the Rt Hon. Jeremy Hunt MP, stated live on Radio 4 in August that the decision not to buy AstraZeneca’s Evusheld was “a worry”, noting that “the government should be doing all it can to keep the immunocompromised out of hospital”. Evusheld would be a powerful tool to protect the NHS this winter.

I would also draw your attention to the briefing letter that has been sent out by the APPG for vulnerable patients to MPs on 17th October

The patients who need Evusheld, and their families, face ongoing isolation to keep themselves safe this winter. This is not only affecting their physical and mental health, their relationships with family members, but their careers, education and social interactions. At a time when household costs are spiralling on all fronts, many are living on limited incomes or savings due to this frustrating situation of not being able to work and many have had to give up employment to keep themselves safe at the very time when the labour market is suffering desperate shortages.

Once more, I would please ask you to write to the Secretary of State for Health on my behalf and urge her to reconsider the Evusheld decision. It is not too late to protect the most vulnerable this winter.

Yours sincerely,

Name

Charity Name