



Department  
of Health &  
Social Care

*From the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*

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Dr Sarah Wollaston MP  
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
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23 August 2018

Dear Sarah,

As announced by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union on 18 July 2018, the Government will be publishing a series of technical notices.

I would therefore like to draw your Committee's attention to the following technical notices that will be published today:

- Blood and blood products
- Quality and safety of organs, tissues and cells
- Labelling tobacco products and e-cigarettes
- Batch testing medicines
- Regulation of medicines, medical devices and clinical trials
- Submitting regulatory information on medical products

These notices will set out information for businesses and citizens to understand what they would need to do in a 'no deal' scenario, so they can make informed plans and preparations.

In parallel, I am also publishing two letters I have sent to the medicines and medical devices industries, respectively, setting out contingency plans for a 'no deal' scenario. I am also sending a letter to frontline organisations informing them of these plans and that they do not need to take any steps to stockpile additional medicines, beyond their business as usual stock levels.

Negotiations are progressing well and both the UK and the EU continue to work hard to seek a positive deal. However, it is the job of responsible Government to prepare

for all scenarios, including the unlikely event that we reach March 2019 without agreeing a deal.

Given the significant amount of work that has now been done, I am confident this gives a clear basis for the health and care sector and the life sciences industry to plan so that patients can continue to receive high quality care unhindered.

I attach a copy of the notices which I will place in the libraries of both Houses along with a copy of this letter. The documents will also be available on gov.uk.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**MATT HANCOCK**