



The Honourable Patty Hajdu, PC, MP
Minister of Health of Canada
70 Colombine Driveway
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

March 23, 2021

Re: Letter of Support Policy Change MSM

Dear Minister Hajdu,

I write on behalf of the Canadian Immunodeficiencies Patient Organization (CIPO) in support of initial implementation of alternative behaviour-based criteria for MSM source plasma donation.

As an organization which has worked for over 20 years to promote better health outcomes for the immunodeficiency population in Canada, we feel that this project is a positive step forward and aligns with our goals. Our patient population relies on plasma-derived medicinal products and we support any work or research that will increase Canada's plasma collection.

Canadian Blood Services implemented a consultative approach, and has provided CIPO with information, a platform to engage and question as well as access to experts. We feel this change is based in science and research, and we support it.

The Canadian Immunodeficiencies Patient Organization (CIPO) is the only patient organization in Canada dedicated to serving those affected by primary immunodeficiency (PI). A registered charity since 1997, CIPO works on behalf of the thousands of Canadians and their families living with PI. Over the last two decades CIPO has offered education, support and advocacy through programs and services. Increasing earlier diagnosis rates in patients, improving patient outcomes, general health and access to treatment remain at the core of CIPO's work.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Whitney Goulstone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Whitney" and last name "Goulstone" clearly distinguishable.

Whitney Goulstone
Executive Director
CIPO

cc: Dr. Stephen Lucas, Pierre Sabourin, Dr. Graham Sher, Celia Lourenco, Don Lapierre, Chris Brennan