

Minister of Health Bartosz Arłukowicz Ministry of Health Miodowa 15, 00-952 Warsaw Poland

13 May 2013

Subject: Concerns over the National Hemophilia Program

Dear Honorable Minister Arłukowicz,

The World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) is an international not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people with hemophilia and related bleeding disorders. The WFH has been in official relation with the World Health Organization since 1969. Since that year also, we have been working in close relation with the Polish Hemophilia Society when it became one of our current 122 national member organizations.

Over the last few years, Poland has become known as a European leader when it comes to the governmental support for hemophilia and other bleeding disorders care. Your National Hemophilia Program that features a medium-term commitment that gradually increases the quality of care for a vulnerable population is a now a model for many countries on the continent. Its creation where the medical experts of your country and the patient organization were consulted is also an example followed by other ministries of health. The Polish hemophilia community has greatly benefited from this national and centralized program and its members can now enjoy a better quality of life and become economically active members of society. The hemophilia medical professionals have also been able to treat their patients appropriately and thus have been able to contribute to saving state funds by preventing orthopedic surgeries.

Therefore, the WFH is concerned by the potential consequences of transferring the National Hemophilia Program from the Ministry of Health to the National Health Fund. Could you please inform if there will be such a program transfer. If so, will the same financial resources be allocated in order to supply the same quantity of treatment products? Moreover, what measures will there be to ensure the equality of access to care no matter where patients live?

The WFH is confident that the "acquis" of care of the hemophilia community will be maintained. I thank you in advance for your clarifications.

Best regards,

PRESIDENT Alain Weill

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