

Message

From: PsBethell [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6F0A1735F9834B5CA9C02D2016D42E9F-PSBETHELL]
Sent: 31/03/2020 19:48:13
To: Houlsby, Catherine [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7994ef1c9f2d474da5c96c6a4ac46933-CHoulsby]; [NR] Sensitive) [NR] @fco.gov.uk]; [NR] Sensitive) [NR] @fco.gov.uk]
CC: [NR] [NR] /o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a62845a0d865429e92dbd46b87b2ab0c [NR]
Subject: RE: V rough readout from Lord B/Hargan call

Hi Catherine,

Thanks so much for this! More than happy to use your readout as the formal one if okay with the team, especially as I don't think DHSC have any actions to take away.

I'll let you know when we confirm regular times for these meetings.

Thanks,



[NR]

Assistant Private Secretary to Lord Bethell | T: [I&S]
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department of Health and Social Care, 39 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0EU

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From: Houlsby, Catherine <Catherine.Houlsby@dhsc.gov.uk>
Sent: 31 March 2020 19:34
To: PsBethell <PsBethell@dhsc.gov.uk> [NR] (Sensitive) [NR] @fco.gov.uk; [NR]
(Sensitive) [NR] @fco.gov.uk
Cc: [NR] [NR] @dhsc.gov.uk
Subject: V rough readout from Lord B/Hargan call

[NR] Are you doing the formal note? Either way, my notes if helpful!

[NR] [NR] To see asap on Zoll etc.

- Enormous set of issue around New York City. Nominal rise continues to be large; the % rise starting to level.
- Starting to recycle respirators – disinfection chamber doing 30,000 a day. Not technically problematic so starting to build elsewhere.
- Triaging of ideas from medical and health sector, forwarding leaning regulatory posture on devices, medical tests, and other supplies. Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine combos. Therapeutic and also potentially prophylactic.
- Social distancing makes a big difference: NY v laissez early on; places holding Mardi Gras. Increasing serious attitude to hoping for downturn in cases and fatalities.
- UK: Two hotspots, one in Birmingham, and one in London. Has there been lots of asymptomatic exposure?

- Hargan: well over 100k tests per day, maybe over 200k. Large nominal but not per capita. Trying to get as many as is capacity of country to produce. Assumption that high degree of asymptomatic transmission that haven't fully discovered yet e.g. national basketball players without symptoms. 10% transmission rate – but also atypically young and healthy. Early results from Iceland also suggest – v high testing – although v different context.
- Antibody test – UK also studying. Where is US? Have FDA approved?
- Not yet to Hargan's knowledge and would expect to know.
- UK sees as key to getting normal life back on track.
- Vaccines in clinical trials – going on for some weeks. Got a cohort.
- Lord B: Need to do really good trials because requires such widespread use of effectiveness.
- US working through NIH and BARDA on research.
- HHS aware of letters on supply but not aware of responses. ACTION: DHSC intl team to follow up.
- Lord B: Raised Zoll issue. HHS not involved. But legal authorities have not yet been invoked with any company in the US as far as knows. If it had happened would have come through White House. Happy to pass on that concern. Up to companies and free market to deal with this issues. Have heard that companies are implying that US is stepping in front of production. ACTION **NR** to follow up via BE Washington.
- US is looking for ventilators as a buyer so are placing lots of orders – are getting criticism from states on 'taking orders'.
- G7 health ministers' statement to be circulated in next couple of hours for discussion on Friday – will try to discuss at official level beforehand.

Thanks,
Catherine



Catherine Houlsby

Deputy Director for International

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