

24 March 2010

The Baroness O'Cathain House of Lords London SW1A 0PW Richmond House 79 Whitehall London SW1A 2NL

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Dear De Ha

In the exchange following Lord Patel's Question on prescription drugs on 17 March 2010, I promised that I would write to you with further information.

The Government has been working closely with the supply chain over the past few months to address the various issues affecting the supply of medicines in the UK. As I said in the debate, whilst it is too early to judge whether there has been any quantifiable improvement as a result of the recent summit, we expect the robust set of actions agreed will continue to keep the risk to patients at minimal levels.

I hope this is helpful and I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library.

**GLENYS THORNTON**