Page 1 of 2

udndata.com

United Data Bank <u>Home | Title Page</u> | Text Page

AIDS Patients Victimized by Drug Demand for Compensation, Department of Health Puts Strong Pressure onto Pharmaceutical Companies

Demand that NT\$2,000,000 per patient be provided within a week, otherwise import of new drugs will be suspended

Reporters Chih Chun Kuo and Cheng Li Chang from Taipei

The compensation of hemophilia patients who were victimized by drug and contracted HIV finally had a breakthrough, Chi Hsien Chan, secretary of Department of Health showed Trump card yesterday, demanding that the pharmaceutical companies shall provide the Consumer Protection Commission and attorneys entrusted by the patients with NT\$2,000,000 per patient within a week, otherwise the import of new drugs from Bayer and Baxter shall be suspended. That is an unprecedented strong pressure the Department of Health has ever put on pharmaceutical companies.

Chi Hsien Chan said that in the hope that the manufacturers and the patients could reach an agreement soon, the Department of Health formed a special group in November of last to address the compensation issue, now that the pharmaceutical companies were unable to make compensations to the patients within a reasonable time period, the Department of Health took the stand to protect its citizens, the Department of Health does not exclude the suspension of its inspection registration operation regarding any drug import submitted by the pharmaceutical companies before the medical responsibilities are finalized, in order to ensure that patients can get appropriate compensations while the reputation of those pharmaceutical companies is not reassuring, unless the submit more than NT\$100,000,000 guarantee fund to the attorneys of Consumer Protection Commission and Self-Saving Association entrusted by the patients.

With regard to the question what should be the reasonable amount of compensation, Chi Hsien Chan said that the pharmaceutical companies should not treat different country differently in terms of compensation amount, they must refer to the compensation amount in other countries, and NT\$2,000,000 is the minimum. As to whether the government is responsible, he said that the Control Yuan has launched an investigation, "if it is responsible, it shall bear the responsibility, if it is not responsible, this matter ends here."

Councilor Mei Ling Hsiao of the Department of Health said that the Department of Health informed the pharmaceutical companies of this decision yesterday, currently Bayer has two new drugs for which applications are submitted for inspection and registration. Mei Ling Hsiao also said that this administrative pressure has a huge impact on the pharmaceutical companies as it may also include the approval of factory's report and permit extension.

Page 2 of 2

Upon learning that, Bayer Taiwan pointed out that such practice is a big matter and it would be unable to make any comment or response until it receives an official notice from the Department of Health.

Yi Mei Huang, Public Relation Director of Bayer indicated that Bayer insisted that there is not negligence on this matter, that it has won all litigations in similar cases throughout the world, therefore, Bayer handled this issued based on the stand of humanitarian aid, not compensation. Originally the bottom line acceptable to Bayer was NT\$1,200,000, but the Department of Health proposed NT\$2,000,000, Bayer Taiwan has reported it to Bayer AG in Germany in this regard and there would be a conclusion next week.

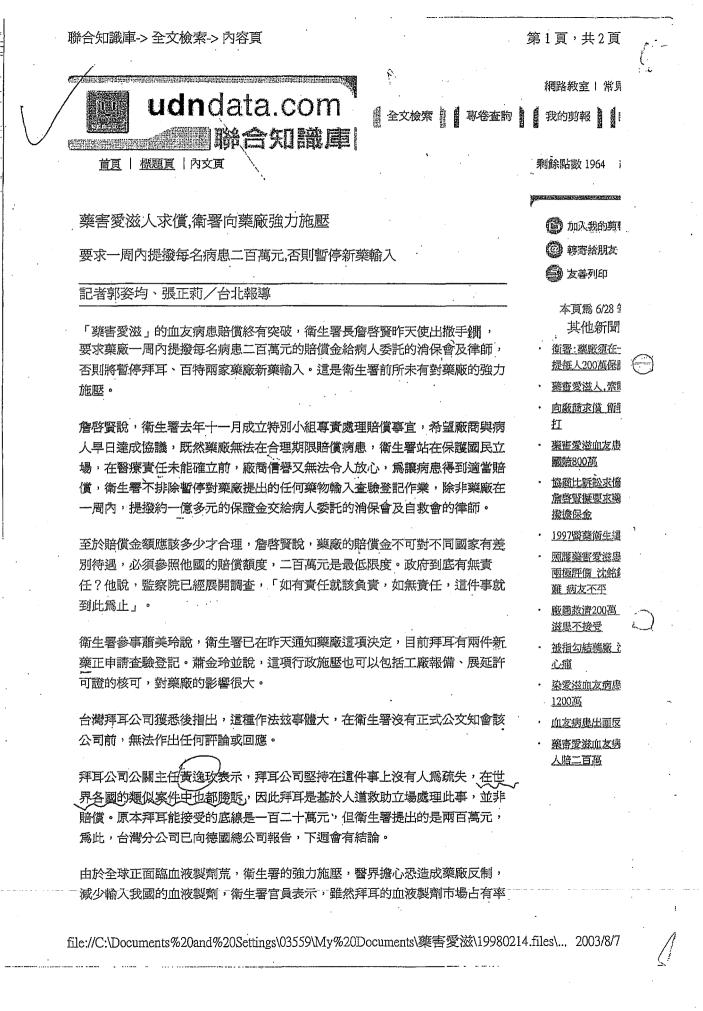
As there is a shortage of blood products all over the world, the medical community worried that the strong pressure from the Department of Health would cause counter-action by the pharmaceutical companies, thus reducing the importation of blood products into our country; yet according to the Department of Health, there are other pharmaceutical companies available even though the blood product from Bayer has taken a dominant market share.

[02-14-1998 | United Daily News | 06 Edition | Social Facsimile]

Case 1:93-cv-07452 Document 1838-39

Filed 08/18/2008 Pa

Page 4 of 5



聯合知識庫-> 全文檢索-> 內容頁

第2頁,共2頁 ۲. پ

極高,但仍有其他藥廠可供選擇。

【 1998-02-14/聯合報/06版/社會傳真 】

回標題頁

關於udndata | 請來信 | 聯合報系 | 著作權聲明 | 隱私權聲明 | 行銷業務

著作權所有、轉載必究