Media Release

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IMPORTED PLASMA AND RECOMBINANT PRODUCT TENDER OUTCOMES

The National Blood Authority (NBA) announced today the successful conclusion of the tender for a range of products to meet the clinical needs of patients with bleeding disorders, patients with Protein C deficiency, and for women requiring intravenous anti-Rh(D) treatment.

Availability of product has been secured and appropriate in-country reserve arrangements will be implemented to guard against risk to supply. Patients will continue to have access to these products free of charge under the national blood arrangements.

There will be two imported recombinant products for Haemophilia A patients - Kogenate FS and Xyntha. Xyntha is already used by many Australian patients and although Kogenate FS was not previously available under the national blood arrangements, it has previously been available in the Australian market.

The outcome of the tender gives Australian patients funded access to products equivalent to that available in other parts of the world at a very competitive price and ensures a secure supply of essential products for haemophilia patients.

The NBA estimates the change to these products will save the Australian community between $10 million and $30 million per year, without compromising clinical efficacy or patient safety. The new arrangements will remain in place for a minimum of three years, from 2011-12 to 2013-14.

Patients are encouraged to discuss options for treatment with their specialist. If there is the need to change to a different product, this change will be done in consultation with a patient's specialist and haemophilia treatment team, and will take account of stocks of current products.

Home delivery arrangements will continue to be offered to patients in consultation with treating clinicians. Improved feedback arrangements for patients and their treating specialists will be implemented.

Supply arrangements for imported anti-Rh(D) immunoglobulin will also change as an outcome of the tender. Rhophylac, an intravenous product, will now be available to supplement the domestic intramuscular product when required. The change-over arrangements for this product have been discussed with the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, and members of the national expert Rh(D) Joint Consultative Committee.

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Background

The NBA has supply contracts with various suppliers of specialised plasma-derived and recombinant products that are either not economical to manufacture in Australia or because the Australian system is unable to produce enough to meet demand. These supply contracts are closely managed to ensure that demand for blood products is met.

The details of the new supply arrangements for these imported products compared to previous arrangements are summarised below.

Imported Product	**Previous Arrangements** *Trade Name (Supplier)*	**New Arrangements from 1 July 2011** *Trade Name (Supplier)*
rFVIII	Advate and Recombinate (Baxter)	Not available after a transition period
	Xyntha (Pfizer)	Xyntha (Pfizer)
		Kogenate FS (Bayer)
rFIX	BeneFIX (Pfizer)	BeneFIX (Pfizer)
APCC	FEIBA (Baxter)	FEIBA (Baxter)
Anti-Rh(D)	WinRho (Baxter)	Rhophylac (CSL)
Protein C	Ceprotin (Baxter)	Ceprotin (Baxter)
pdFVII	Plasma Derived Factor VII (Baxter)#	Plasma Derived Factor VII (Baxter)
pdFXI	BPL Factor XI and LFB Hemoleven (CSL)#	
pdFXIII	Fibrogammin P (CSL)#	Fibrogammin P (CSL)

 # - Provided under ad hoc arrangements to meet clinical requirements. Please note that negotiations are continuing with CSL for the provision of pdFXI.