

15 May 2001

Dr Sheena Parker
NSCAG
Room LG04
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG

Dear Dr Parker

As the UK alliance of support groups and voluntary agencies for the support of those affected by genetic disorders GIG exists to promote the development of high quality appropriate services that respond to the needs of individuals and families.

Amongst our 130+ member groups is the Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome Support Group (AISSG). The members of this group are very concerned that existing services, which are highly valued by those who receive them, appear to be under threat as a result of a rationalization of current provision. I know that the AISSG has been in contact with you directly over this issue and I write in support of them and to ask that serious consideration be given to the concerns they express in their correspondence.

Recently, there has been considerable emphasis given to putting the patient at the heart of the NHS's service delivery. Clearly it is neither possible or desirable to respond to every wish, but in this case there is a clearly expressed view based on experience and knowledge of the realities of living with a condition which is poorly understood and frequently stigmatized.

I hope it will be possible to review the pattern of service provision for those with Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome in the light of the representations that have been made.

Yours Sincerely

Alastair Kent
Director