

# DEPARTMENT OF RHEUMATOLOGY

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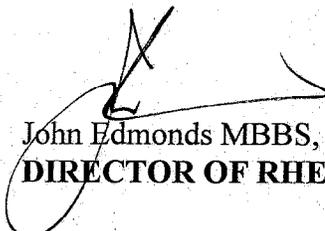
9-7-2001

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061  
Rockville  
MD 20857

Dear Sir

With this letter I, being a member of the ASAS working group, would like to express my support for the initiative of the ASAS working group in taking a lead in coordinating a critical appraisal of the science related to AS. This initiative refers to the request of the FDA to assist in the development of a guidance for industry on issues related to drugs, biological products, and devices for the treatment of AS and related disorders.

Yours sincerely

  
John Edmonds MBBS, FRACP  
**DIRECTOR OF RHEUMATOLOGY**

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