3 JUNE 2000

FROM: HABIB RATHLE, MD
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2374 '00 AUG 16 P2:14

TO: JANE HENNEY, MD, COMMISSIONER
FDA

RE: 1- BAN ANIMAL USES OF GROWTH-PROMOTING ANTIBIOTICS
2- BAN GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOODS
3- DO NOT APPROVE NEW DRUGS TOO FAST

Dear Dr Henney,

I have learned that countries of the European Union (e.g. Sweden, Denmark, the United Kingdom) are way ahead of the U.S. in the above three areas.

As you know, new research has shown that the animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics produce resistant organisms in humans, like Campylobacter, with disastrous results. Since 1985, Sweden has banned growth-promoting antibiotics in animals. After a period of adaptation, the poultry and cattle industry has succeeded in raising animals at the same production level as before the ban, without ~~the~~ an increase in price for consumers.

I am also aware that the European Union has banned genetically modified foods and has been much more cautious in approving new drugs, or pulling them out of the market quickly, when they prove harmful (e.g. troglitazone).

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I would like the FDA to emulate Europe and to put the public's interest ahead of the profits of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.

Sincerely,

H. Rathle, MD, pediatrician.

99P-0485

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