

# The Role of Government in Plasma Therapeutics

Presentation to the Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability

January 28-29, 2004



# Conclusions

# US Government Role in Plasma Therapeutics is:

- Assuring Safety and Availability
  - Well regulated, high quality therapies
- -Preserving Access and Choice
  - Appropriate payment systems that recognize the unique nature of plasma therapies



#### Where to Plasma Therapies Fit?

#### **National Resource**

- Blood, tissue, organs
- Safety is paramount
- No substitutes
- Limited supply
- Market vigilance

#### **Pharmaceutical**

- Lipitor, Nexium, Vioxx
- Different safety profile
- Generics accepted
- Make more, sell more
- Free market



# **National Resource**

- Plasma Collection France, Spain, Italy (others)
- Fractionation BPL (U.K.), Sanquin (Holland)
- Distribution Canadian Blood Services
- Payer most national authorities
- Regulator most national and supra national authorities (e.g., FDA, EMEA)



#### Plasma Therapies are not Pharmaceuticals

Plasma Industry Cost Base

Overheads
Fixed Costs

R&D

Marketing

Direct Manufacturing

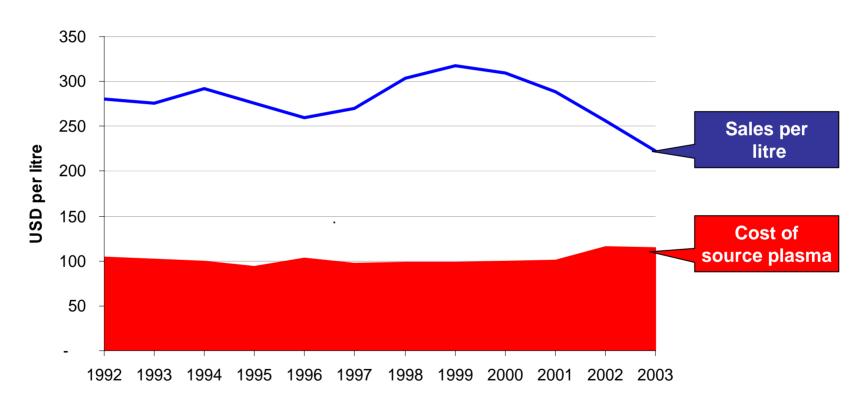
Raw Materials

Pharmaceutical Industry Cost Base





#### Real\* sales per liter and real cost of plasma



<sup>\*</sup> Prices and costs corrected for inflation – source MRB



# **Unique Therapies**

#### Need a paradigm shift:

- Focus on end-product safety
- Plan for Emerging Pathogens
- Facilitate R&D through clinical trial requirements
  - Broaden indications for core products
- Establish appropriate payment methods



# **Unique Therapies**

#### Payment Methods:

- Medicare Part B
  - IVIG listed as Generic: CMS disconnect with FDA
  - Provides payment at average sale price (ASP) plus 6% in 2005 and 2006
- HOPPS
  - Therapies listed as non-innovator Multiple Source (46% AWP)
    - 50% less than Single Source rate (up to 95% AWP)
    - 30% less than innovator multi-source rate (68% of AWP)
  - Should be listed as Single Source



# **Unique Therapies**

#### Medicaid Limitations on Access and Choice

- Prior Authorization
  - 37 states have some form of PA
- Reference and MAC pricing
  - Florida and Washington State
- Single Source provider contracts
  - Florida and Massachusetts



## Conclusions

- Plasma Therapies are Unique: they are neither a "national resource" nor a pharmaceutical.
  - Payment systems must address plasma therapies
    - Traditional cost containment methods are not appropriate
  - Public Health Regulators should refocus:
    - End product safety
    - Address emerging pathogens
    - Facilitate clinical trials