To: European Commission
Health and Consumer Protection
Directorate-General
Rare Diseases consultation
HTC 01/198
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Concerning: Response to consultation for Rare Diseases

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Madame, Sir,

In response to the European Commission's consultation for Rare Diseases, we wish to present the *Middelheim's Team for Orphan Diseases* (MITOD).

This multidisciplinary team consists of medical doctors with expertise in the field of rare metabolic disorders, especially Fabry's disease. In order to optimize the diagnostic and therapeutic approach of this patient group, the team meets on a monthly basis to discuss the management of each individual patient using a diagnostic and therapeutic protocol based on current international guidelines.

Besides providing optimal medical care, we put efforts in clinical research. We initiated and currently participate in epidemiological studies on the prevalence of Fabry's disease on a regional, national and international level and we enter our patient data in international Fabry registers, in order to improve current knowledge of this rare disease.

In the near future we will invite other experts in rare diseases (e.g. Gaucher disease, Pulmonary Hypertension, MPS,…) that are active in our institution and the University Hospital of Antwerp (e.g. Pompe disease) to join us in a clinical and scientific board.

Yours sincerely,

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