

# Exempting Goods and Services Tax (GST) on CML Drugs

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6 May 2016; Ljubljana



*Max Family*  
Hope, Love & Cheer

# To exempt CML Drugs from GST

- Pharmaceutical, Novartis (NVS)
  - Commercial concerns
- Haematologists
- Max Family (MF)
- The Max Foundation (Max)
  - Affordability issues
    - Patient compliance and disease control



# What happened?

1 April 2015

- **GST Implemented and Effective**

17 May 2015

- **Max Foundation & Max Family were informed of the issues by NVS**
- **Engaged & consulted key haematologists**



# What happened?

27 May 2015

- MF sent letter to Ministry of Finance to seek exemption

25 Jun 2015

- MF, Max met with Custom Division, MoF; Pharmacy & Contract Division, MoH
- Followed by subsequent meetings by relevant parties



# Results

12 Oct  
2015

- **Donated drugs (PAP) granted GST waived**

1 Jan  
2016

- **CML Drugs (Glivec, Tasigna) & other cancer drugs are approved to be zero rated GST**



# Results

Stakeholders

- **Worry free**

Hospitals

- **Supply continuous & sufficient**



# Conclusion

- ✓ Successfully advocate importance of life saving drugs
  - ✓ patient voices do have significant impact
- ✓ Increase CML awareness among policy makers
- ✓ Important to engage with relevant parties (key hematologist) to best represent patients



# Acknowledgment

Ministry of Health, Pharmacy & Contract Division

Ministry of Finance, Royal Malaysian Custom Department

National Service of Hematology, HoD & Team

The Max Foundation

Max Family

Novartis Malaysia

