

Box 4.1: Balloon debate

Reading text

Government Wants to Cut Expenditure on Maintenance of Human Bodies

By our scientific correspondent

Yesterday the government announced measures to economise on the costs of human bodies. The most striking measure is the plan to abolish at least one entire organ system. However, there is still no consensus among government officials which organ system should be done away with. According to reliable sources more details will be announced by next month.

The different organisations for organ systems have been asked for input and comment. The following seven institutes were approached:

- the Association of Circulatory Systems (ACS)
- the Royal Club of Respiratory Systems (RCRS)
- the Friends of Excretion (FE)
- the Digestive Society (DS)
- the Endocrine System Interest Group (ESIG)
- the Nervous Ones (NO)
- the Propagators of Reproduction (PoR)

The above-mentioned interest groups have expressed their concern about the situation, but are not willing to comment at this stage. All agree that talks should be held with each party concerned before opinions can be vented, and that society should not be rushed into such a far-reaching measure.

The following procedure has been proposed. Each of the organisations will send representatives to the talks which will be held at our school. There will be simultaneous meetings, each with one representative of each interest group. The outcome will be discussed in a plenary session. Hopefully, a number of government officials will be present to witness the possible consequences of their proposed policies.



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