Golden rice

1 **Read this short blog, answer the questions, and comment.**

Allow Golden Rice Now!

Vitamin A deficiency kills more children than either malaria, HIV-aids or tuberculosis. It is the biggest killer of children in the world.
Hello, I'm Patrick Moore. I was one of the co-founders in Greenpeace, back in the early nineteen seventies, while I was doing my PhD in ecology. I've been an independent environmentalist for the last 25 years and now I'm leading the campaign to allow Golden Rice now. Golden Rice is a genetically modified variety of rice, in which two genes have been inserted into the rice plant, in order to put beta carotene in the grain of rice, technically known as the endosperm. Beta carotene is an essential nutrient for all animals including humans, that's what we make vitamin A with. We are capable of ingesting beta carotene and turning it into vitamin A, which is essential for our eyesight and our immune system.
Golden Rice is identical to other rice varieties, except for the addition of beta carotene, which is an essential nutrient and can only cause benefits to health. Golden Rice offers the benefit of ending vitamin A deficiency without any additional risks. Greenpeace and GM WATCH are the main opponents of Golden Rice. Contact them and demand that they make an exception on humanitarian grounds to their zero tolerance policy on genetic modification.

1. How dangerous is Vitamin A deficiency?
2. Who is talking?
3. When did he found Greenpeace?
4. What is Golden Rice?
5. What does the rice genetic modification consist of?
6. Why is beta carotene important?
7. What are the benefits of vitamin A?
8. Who are the main opponents of this genetic modification?



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