



**Review of medicines legislation: Informal consultation on the Medicines Act 1968 exemptions for sale, supply and administration of medicines.**

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society Response**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is the new professional body for every pharmacist in Great Britain. We are the only body that represents all sectors of pharmacy in Great Britain and currently have 49,000 members.

The RPS leads and supports the development of the pharmacy profession within the context of the public benefit. This includes the advancement of science, practice, education and knowledge in pharmacy. In addition, it promotes the profession's policies and views to a range of external stakeholders in a number of different forums.

Its functions and services include:

**Leadership, representation and advocacy:** promoting the status of the pharmacy profession and ensuring that pharmacy's voice is heard by governments, the media and the public.

**Professional development, education and support:** helping pharmacists to advance their careers through professional advancement, career advice and guidance on good practice.

**Professional networking and publications:** creating a series of communication channels to enable pharmacists to discuss areas of common interest.

The changes for the pharmacy profession, as suggested in this consultation are minimal with many current exemptions being retained.

**Comments on specific proposals:**

Proposal 1: We are slightly concerned over the extension to 'other settings where research is carried out' and hope that this will be carefully controlled.

Proposal 10: This proposal is to remove the provision for pharmacists selling or supplying to persons to whom cyanide salts may be sold. This exemption currently only applies to amyl nitrate but as this is no longer recommended as an antidote to cyanide poisoning it seems sensible to remove this provision

Proposal 13: We believe that there ought to be some element of competency required, or the facilities of telemedicine explored, rather than the blanket allowing of a master or owner of a ship to receive and administer any medicine.

Proposal 21: We would support the exemption of water for injection from prescription control when it is intended for non-medical use.

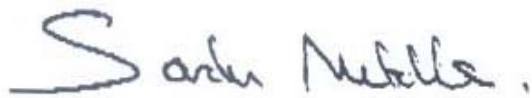
Proposal 27: We support the proposal that the list should be retained and agree with the current content.

Annex A. We would like to see some cardiac medicines included in this list. However, because of the specialist nature of these medicines and the specialised routes of possible administration we would like to see a separate provision which would enable administration in a cardiac arrest situation by persons holding the Resuscitation Council's Advanced Life support training certificate. We believe that in order to administer this group of medicines a person should be fully trained in all ALS techniques as the administration of such medicines at the correct point in any resuscitation cycle is very important.

Annex B. We agree that the current list should be retained.



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