



# Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Helping pharmacists achieve excellence

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Dear Ms Bryan,

e-mail: [catherine.duggan@rpsgb.org](mailto:catherine.duggan@rpsgb.org)

**Re: Public consultation (MLX 364): The regulation of nicotine containing products (NCPs)**

I write on behalf of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to respond to the above consultation document.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is the current professional and regulatory body for pharmacists in England, Scotland and Wales. It also regulates pharmacy technicians on a voluntary basis, which is expected to become statutory under anticipated legislation. The primary objectives of the Society are to lead, regulate, develop and represent the profession of pharmacy. The Society leads and supports the development of the profession within the context of the public benefit. This includes the advancement of science, practice, education and knowledge in pharmacy whilst, it also promotes the profession's policies and views to a range of external stakeholders in a number of different forums. Following the publication in 2007 of the Government White Paper Trust, Assurance and Safety - The Regulation of Health Professionals in the 21st Century, the Society is working towards the demerger of its regulatory and professional roles. This will see the establishment of a new General Pharmaceutical Council and a new Professional body in 2010.

Based on the very limited data available concerning the quality, safety and efficacy of unlicensed NCPs on the market, the Society supports policy option 1: 'All NCPs should be classified as medicinal products and all unlicensed NCPs be removed from the market within 21 days'.

We hope these comments are useful.

Thank you for contacting the Society.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Duggan

Director of Professional Development & Support