



# Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Helping pharmacists achieve excellence

Ms Veronica Alexander  
Department of Health  
Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency  
Room 14-138 Market Towers  
1 Nine Elms lane  
London  
SW8 5NQ

15<sup>th</sup> April 2010

DR CATHERINE DUGGAN

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT

Telephone: 020 7572 2358

Facsimile: 020 7572 2506

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

Dear Ms. Alexander,

**Re: Arm 68 Ibuleve Speed Relief Max Strength Gel 10% w/w**

We 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.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society does not support the reclassification of Ibuleve Speed Relief Max Strength Gel 10%w/w from P to GSL. The patient information leaflet repeatedly advises patients to seek advice from a doctor or pharmacist. In non-pharmacy outlets where general sale list medicines are supplied there is no professional advice available. If the product remains a P medicine then pharmacy advice is available from trained staff.

In addition we request that the following point is taken into consideration:

## **Reclassification Summary**

### **Section 5. Specific GSL Requirements**

This refers to adults and children over 12. The Package Leaflet includes an additional statement that children under the age of 12 may also use the product if recommended by their doctor. If this product remains a P medicine then trained pharmacy staff can ensure that this advice is followed and the product is not self-selected for use in a child under the age of 12. If the product is available from non-pharmacy outlets then this safeguard will not be in place.

We hope these comments are useful.

Thank you for contacting the Society.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Duggan', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Catherine Duggan.

Director of Professional Development & Support.