

To: All Community Pharmacists  
All GPs

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Dear Colleague

### **Stock requisitions for Controlled Drugs – Change to HSCB Guidance**

In February 2011, guidance for Developing a Controlled Drugs (CD) Standard Operating Procedure for Prescribers in Primary Care was issued by the HSCB. I am writing to advise you of a change to this guidance in relation to requisitions for obtaining CD stock.

It has come to our attention that when a community pharmacy supplies medication against a stock requisition this is regarded as a wholesale transaction. Pharmacists can only supply original and complete packs when making a wholesale supply and must not label the product in any way.

<http://www.psnl.org.uk/documents/601/GuideLegalRequirements+MedsHumanUseExemptionsControlRetailSale.pdf>

#### **Previously issued guidance stated:**

*It is not necessary to order a full original pack of a CD (e.g. 10 ampoules). It is acceptable to order a single ampoule if appropriate.*

#### **Revised guidance now states:**

*Orders placed with community pharmacies should be for complete original packs eg it is not acceptable to order single ampoules.*

The revised version of the HSCB guidance for developing a Controlled Drugs Standard Operating Procedure for Prescribers will be issued to practices in the near future.

#### **Action:**

1. Bring this information to the attention of all prescribers and pharmacists.
2. Update current procedures for obtaining and supplying stock against a requisition to include this revised guidance.

Yours Sincerely



Joe Brogan  
HSCB Accountable Officer

