

Department of Health and Social Care  
39 Victoria St  
London  
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Monday, 21 May 2018

To the Department of Health and Social Care

## **DHSC review of the Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) Regulations 2013**

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) is the regulator for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and registered pharmacies in Great Britain. It is our job to protect, promote and maintain the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public who use pharmacy services in England, Scotland and Wales.

We welcome the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the review of the above regulations.

Whilst the Regulations as a whole are of interest to us, we have limited our response to comments where we feel our work is relevant to the proposals. We are happy to continue to contribute to any future work in this area.

***Q: We are aware that some new ways of working may now mean that not all appropriate health care models fall under the 2013 Regulation's definition of "designated bodies". What new ways of working do you think should be defined by the 2013 Regulations but currently are not?***

We believe there is a potential lack of visibility if non-medical independent prescribers operate privately. Although the individuals would be relevant persons, the service would not need to be registered or operate from a registered address.

***Q: Do the "relevant premises" of the 2013 Regulations [outlined above] remain appropriate?***

We believe private service providers, for example independent prescribers and slimming clinics, may not be caught by the definition.

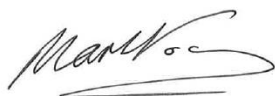
***Q: Do the duties of a CDAO [as outlined above] remain appropriate?***

We note that there is no mention of a duty to ensure that there are adequate arrangements for securing the safe destruction and disposal of controlled drugs. Although this duty is not specifically included in the 2013 regulations, it was covered in the accompanying guidance.

We would like to highlight the importance of this duty as an element of CDAOs' role, and to recommend its inclusion. Were CDAOs not to ensure that adequate arrangements are in place, we would be concerned that pharmacies may have difficulty accessing the resources that have the legal authority to carry out this function.

If you would like further information on the points raised in this response, or any other aspects of the GPhC's work, we would welcome further discussion.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Voce', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mark Voce  
Director of Education and Standards – Interim  
General Pharmaceutical Council