

The Statutory Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland met on 14th November 2008 at 10am to inquire into the matter of the conduct of Ms Roisin McKenna 3756 R whilst being registered as a pharmacist with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland.

In Magistrates Court Ms McKenna had pleaded guilty to and was convicted of the following offences:-

- On the 17 July 2007 in the County Court Division of Belfast, she unlawfully had in her possession a controlled drug of Class B namely Dexedrine in contravention of Section 5(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 contrary to Section 5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971;
- On the 17 July 2007 in the County Court Division of Belfast, unlawfully she had in her possession a controlled drug of Class C namely Diazepam in contravention of Section 5(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 contrary to Section 5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971;
- On the 17 July 2007 in the County Court Division of Belfast, unlawfully she had in her possession a controlled drug of Class C namely Temazepam in contravention of Section 5(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 contrary to Section 5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971;

Further and in addition the Committee was asked to consider if:

- Ms McKenna supplied false and misleading information in the form of incorrect entries in a controlled drug register which is required pursuant to Regulations 19 and 20 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 contrary to Section 18 of the misuse of Drugs Act 1971.
- Ms McKenna failed to comply with the following principles of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland's Code of Ethics and Practice;

Principle 1 – A pharmacist's prime concern must be for the welfare of both the patient and other members of the public.

Principle 2 – A pharmacist must uphold the honour and dignity of the profession and not engage in any activity which may bring the profession into disrepute.

Principle 3 - A pharmacist must at all times have regard to the laws and regulations applicable to a pharmaceutical practice and maintain a high standard of professional conduct. A pharmacist must avoid any act or omission which would impair confidence in the pharmaceutical

profession. When a pharmaceutical service is provided, a pharmacist must ensure that it is efficient.

- Ms McKenna dishonestly appropriated, for her own personal use and consumption, a controlled drug namely Dexedrine, during the course of her employment as a pharmacist.
- Ms McKenna used a controlled drug namely Dexedrine, that had been dishonestly appropriated by her during the course of her employment as a pharmacist without that drug being lawfully prescribed to her.

Determination

The Statutory Committee directed that any application that may be made for restoration to the register should not be made for at least ten years and in addition, that even at that stage, any application that may be made to be restored to the Register, should not be granted without the direction of the Statutory Committee

Date of effect

The determination of the Committee shall not take effect until the expiration of a period of three months from the date on which notice was served. Due notice was served on 17th November 2008.

An appeal to this decision may be made to the High Court at any time within three months from the date on which notice of the direction was served

Mr Brendan Kerr
Clerk to the Statutory Committee
15th November 2008