

For Immediate release 12/06/13

We would draw all registrants' attention to the press release issued today by MHRA in relation to e-cigarettes. <http://www.mhra.gov.uk/NewsCentre/Pressreleases/CON286855>

We would further draw your attention to the report on the BBC website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-22870301>

In this report, Jeremy Mean of The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is reported to have said

“the government had concluded that e-cigarettes currently on the market do not meet appropriate standards of safety, quality and efficacy.

He said "levels of contamination" had been found in the products and some were poorly manufactured.

There will be no compulsory licensing of the products until 2016 but until then they are not recommended for use, he said.

"We can't recommend these products because their safety and quality is not assured, and so we will recommend that people don't use them," he told a news conference."

In light of this advice we strongly recommend that all Pharmacies consider removal of such products from sale to the general public.

We would remind pharmacist that the first duty in the Code of Ethics is “Make the safety and welfare of your patients your prime concern”

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society NI will consider the implications of these findings and will issue further communications in the near future.