

PSNC on medicines shortages: The Department of Health must respond before anyone else gets seriously hurt

On the publication of today's report on medicines shortages from the All-Party Pharmacy Group, Sue Sharpe, Chief Executive of PSNC said:

"Too often pharmacists have to really struggle to source medicines for their patients which should be readily available. We wholeheartedly welcome the report, as it shines a much-needed spotlight on an issue we have been pushing for action on for a number of years.

"It's our view that the Department of Health has been too focussed on the supposed constraints EU legislation has on the Government, rather than looking to how we can solve the problem together through measures such as greater flexibility on quota arrangements, standardisation of emergency supply arrangements and locally managed buffer stocks, which will help to better translate the principles outlined in the joint best practice guidance.

"We thank the All-Party Group for their powerful call to action. The Department of Health must respond before anyone else gets seriously hurt."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

- PSNC (The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee) is the body that represents community pharmacies in England and Wales on NHS matters.
- The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) is recognised by the Secretary of State for Health as the representative of community pharmacy on NHS matters. PSNC's main objective is to secure the best possible NHS service opportunities, remuneration, terms and conditions for NHS pharmacy contractors in England. PSNC represents and promotes the interests of 10,500 pharmacy contractors (pharmacy owners) in England. It is the role of PSNC to liaise with the Department of Health and representatives of the NHS in England to negotiate the contractual terms for the provision of NHS community pharmacy services.
- For further information please contact Amy Bourke or Sam MacAuslan on 020 618 9187 or psnc@luther.co.uk.