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Dear Ms Wiltshire

ABM abattoir and cutting plant standards

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is the professional and self-regulatory body for pharmacists in Great Britain. The Society's functions include: maintaining the register of pharmacists and pharmacies; regular inspection of pharmacies to monitor standards of practice and compliance with legal and professional requirements; accrediting undergraduate pharmacy degree courses; ensuring fitness to practise at the point of registration; promoting continuing education; producing clinical audit tools for pharmacy practice and tools to support uni and multiprofessional clinical governance. The Society also produces a Code of Ethics containing standards governing the conduct and practice of pharmacists.

Page 10, section 13.3 "Product identification and traceability" of the above consultation document suggests that documents should be retained for twenty four months, whereas on page 11, sections 17.1 and 17.2 "Document control and record keeping" quote twelve or eighteen months for keeping records depending on the circumstances. These sections are obviously linked and we suggest that records should be kept for the same time for maximum efficiency and tracking should an emergency arise.

We hope this comment is helpful.

The Society is pleased to have been consulted on this matter and is grateful to you for extending the deadline for receipt of comments.

Yours sincerely

Sue Kilby
Head of Practice