



Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Helping pharmacists achieve excellence

Ms Amanda Lawrence
Policy Advisor & Reclassification Manager
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PRACTICE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

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Dear Ms Lawrence,

Re: ARM 27 – Request to reclassify a product from P to GSL (Pepto-Bismol)

I write on behalf of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to respond to the above consultation document.

The Society believes that the public is best protected by purchasing their medicines through a pharmacy where professional advice is available.

The proposal to reclassify Pepto-Bismol from P to GSL cannot be supported by the Society.

The current exemption for sale through pharmacies has been shown to be safe because there is a pharmacist on hand to counsel the purchaser and/or deal with questions that arise, for example, on identifying the condition the patient is suffering from. In non-pharmacy premises where General Sales List medicines are supplied, there is no professional advice available to customers.

If Pepto-Bismol were to be reclassified from P to GSL, the Society recommends that the pack size should be limited to a 240ml bottle (i.e. one day's supply at a maximum dose of 30ml up to 8 times a day). The labelling should also clearly highlight cautions and the statement "not to be taken by children under 16" should be in a box in bold on the label.

Thank you for consulting the Society.

Yours sincerely,

Sadia Khan
Practice Pharmacist