



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society
of Great Britain**

Law and Ethics Bulletin Methadone Oral Solution

Pharmacists are advised to exercise caution when dispensing methadone oral solution. There is the potential for confusion to occur between different strengths. Methadone oral solution is available in various strengths: 0.4mg/ml; 1mg/ml; 10mg/ml; 20mg/ml.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society is aware of occasions where the wrong strength of methadone has erroneously been supplied to a patient.

Pharmacists should have in place procedures for recording dispensing errors and near-misses. The Society guidance on dealing with dispensing errors can be found at: www.rpsgb.org/pdfs/restooldealdisperr.pdf This guidance also gives a link to the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee website, which has an error log template that was devised in conjunction with the National Patient Safety Agency.

The Society has also produced a near miss error log, which can be located at: www.rpsgb.org/pdfs/restoolnearmiss.pdf The Advisory Service of the Society's Fitness to Practise and Legal Affairs Directorate has also produced a fact sheet entitled 'Dealing with Dispensing Errors', which can be found at www.rpsgb.org