



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society**
of Great Britain

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News release

For immediate release

4 January 2005

2005 RETENTION PROCESS WELL AHEAD OF PREVIOUS YEAR

Payment of 2005 retention fees to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is up substantially when compared to the previous year with 10,798 members having paid their fees so far.

The Society's Head of Registration, Andrew Gardner, said: "I am delighted that the new payment system is proving popular with members and particularly pleased that over 70% of those payments received have been made online."

All fees were due on 1 January 2005. Payment can be made online using major credit and debit cards at www.rpsgb.org/payment. For members who have a direct debit set up, the practising fee will have been debited from their account on or shortly after the 4 January 2005. Payment can also be made by cheque (sterling cheques drawn on a sterling account) using the retention fee form and the pre-paid envelope provided. Members will be sent a receipt within 28 days of making payment. For further information please contact 020 7572 2322 or e-mail registration@rpsgb.org.

Ends

**For further information please contact Natalie Sticklen or Felicity Slayford in the
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain's Public Relations Unit**

020 7572 2335/6

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Notes to editors

Members who fail to pay fees on time risk erasure from the register meaning that they would be unable to practise as a pharmacist. Premises owners who fail to make payment on time also risk their premises being removed from the register, meaning premises would be closed to the public.

The Society

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is the professional and regulatory body for pharmacists in England, Scotland and Wales.

The primary objective of the Society is to lead, regulate and develop the pharmacy profession.

The Society has responsibility for a wide range of functions that combine to assure competence and fitness to practise. These include controlled entry into the profession, education, registration, setting and enforcing professional standards, promoting good practice, providing support for improvement, dealing with poor performance, dealing with misconduct and removal from the register.

In addition, the Society leads and supports the development of the profession in the public interest and promotes the profession's policies and views to a range of external stakeholders in a number of different forums.