

# Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Helping pharmacists achieve excellence

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Ref: SK01/06  
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Dear Mr Martin,

## **Re: ARM 35 - Request to reclassify Fenistil Cold Sore Cream from POM to P**

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

The Society welcomes the proposal to reclassify Fenistil Cold Sore Cream, with the proviso that pharmacists involved in sales are issued with appropriate guidance and training to ensure the safe and effective use of this product.

The Society believes that the public is best protected by purchasing their medicines through a pharmacy where professional advice is available. Pharmacists are equipped with the requisite knowledge and skills to safely diagnose and recommend appropriate treatment for the indications proposed.

We request that the following issue be clarified:

The proposed indication is for adults (including the elderly) and children over 12 years of age. The consultation document highlights 'that no work has been carried out in children below 12 years of age; therefore the product cannot be recommended in children under 12'. The patient information leaflet states however that the product is 'not suitable for children under 12 unless directed by a doctor'.

The wording in the PIL implies that a doctor could refer a child under 12 to a pharmacist for possible supply of Fenistil Cold Sore Cream over-the-counter – the pharmacist in effect would be asked to supply the product outside the terms of the P product license.

Thank you for consulting the Society.

Yours sincerely,

Sadia Khan  
Practice Pharmacist - Lead for Self-care