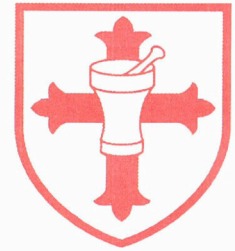




GHP

*Guild of
Healthcare
Pharmacists*



19th November 2010

Roy Drepaul,
16/139
Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
Market Towers
1 Nine Elms Lane
London, SW8 5NQ.

Dear Mr Drepaul

**Consultation Letter MLX 371: Proposals To Allow Student Midwives Access To
The Parenteral Medicines That Can Be Administered By Registered Midwives**

Response from the Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation. The Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists represents UK wide around 4,000 pharmacists including the majority of hospital pharmacists, pharmacists employed by NHS Primary Care organisations and pharmacists employed by other public bodies such as Prisons and the Care Quality Commission. The Guild is part of the health sector of the union Unite.

Our comments on the proposed changes to medicines legislation re as follows:

1. Allowing student midwives to administer parenteral medicines on the midwives list, which are, not controlled drugs under the direct supervision of a registered midwife

We support the proposals contained in the MLX.

As pharmacists work closely with midwives we are fully aware that maternity services have significantly changed and developed in recent years and that many midwifery care services are now midwife led. It is

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therefore important that student midwives gain the necessary skills and are able to work unrestricted once qualified and registered with their professional body. The proposed change in legislation would allow them to gain the necessary experience in the use of medicines especially those non-controlled parenteral medicines contained within the midwives' exemption list as these reflect the majority of medicines administered by midwives. We do not foresee any problems with the proposed changed in legislation providing a registered midwife directly supervises the student midwife.

2. Removal of and amendment to certain medicines from the midwives exemptions

We agree with the proposal to remove (a) intravenous Haemaccel and Ergometrine for oral use from the list, (b) references to oral Lidocaine and Lidocaine Hydrochloride, and (c) reference to hydrochloride next to the entry for Cyclizine.

We hope these comments are of assistance

Our reply may be made freely available.

Yours faithfully

Barry Corbett
Professional Secretary
Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists

Graeme Richardson
Chair of Practice
Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists