

Name: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs

(contact details below of the Secretary – Will Reynolds)

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Are you a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.I? N

Are you responding on behalf of a Pharmacy Premises Owner? N

If yes, please state name and address of premises and owner.

Comments on the proposed changes:

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) are pleased to have the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the proposed amendment to The Misuse of Drugs (Safe Custody) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1973.

The issue of safe custody of controlled drugs within the UK is part of the ACMD's remit in considering the potential misuse and harms of drugs. The ACMD has considered the proposed amendment and is content with the amendment as recommended.

The ACMD consider that the proposed amendment will reduce the administrative burden for authorities and pharmacies. One point that the ACMD suggest should be considered is that the authorities may wish to preserve the right to review or remove the certificate mid term in exceptional circumstances i.e. information received that a particular pharmacy is not utilising the safe keeping procedures as agreed in the exemption certificate (see paragraph 14 in the recommendations section).