



The Voice of London Community Pharmacy Committees

Dear Pharmacist / Registered Technician

The following legislative changes will come into force on **Tuesday 10 June 2014**:

Tramadol will become a schedule 3 controlled drug (CD No Register POM), but will be exempt from Safe Custody Regulations.

Lisdexamfetamine will become a schedule 2 controlled drug (CD POM)

Zopiclone and **Zaleplon** will become schedule 4 part 1 controlled drugs (CD Benz POM)

The table below summarises various characteristics of the affected drugs that will apply from **Tuesday 10 June 2014**.

	Tramadol	Lisdexamfetamine	Zopiclone	Zaleplon
Designation from 10th June 2014	Schedule 3 (CD No Reg POM)	Schedule 2 (CD POM)	Schedule 4 (Part I)	Schedule 4 (Part I)
Safe Custody Regulations apply	No	Yes	No	No
CD Register Entry	No	Yes	No	No
Controlled Drug Prescription requirements*	Yes	Yes	No	No
Private Prescriptions requiring Pink Forms issued by NHSE with ID No for prescriber	Yes	Yes	No	No
Prescription valid for	28 days	28 days	28 days	28 days
Address of the prescriber required to be within the UK	Yes	Yes	No	No
EEA and Swiss prescribers can legally prescribe	No	No	Yes	Yes
Prescription is repeatable*	No	No	Yes	Yes
Allowed on Repeat Dispensing Service in England	No	No	Yes	Yes
Allowed on EPS	No	No	Yes	Yes
Emergency supply	No	No	Yes	Yes
Controlled drug Requisition necessary	Yes	Yes	No	No
Requisition to be marked by supplier	Yes	Yes	No	No
License required to import or export	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Denature before disposal*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*See MEP 37 section 3.7 for further information.

Details of the legislation can be found in [SI 2014/1275 The Misuse of Drugs and Misuse of Drugs \(Safe Custody\) \(Amendment\) \(England, Wales and Scotland\) Regulations 2014](#)

It is important that all staff dealing with Dispensing and with Controlled Drugs are aware of these changes to the legislation

Some of the issues to bear in mind in order for a smooth transition on Tuesday 10th June:

- Ensure all repeatable (private or NHS) prescriptions held by the pharmacy for Tramadol and Lisdexamfetamine are looked through – no further repeats can be done after Monday 9th June.
- Any regular patients and prescribers of prescriptions for Tramadol and Lisdexamfetamine need to be made aware of the requirement to conform with CD prescription writing as well as that validity is now only 28 days. The latter applies also to Zopiclone and Zaleplon
- Private prescribers of Tramadol and Lisamfetamine need to be made aware of the need to use the pink FP10PCD forms – these are issued by NHSE; as well as the need for the prescriber to have their own unique prescriber identification number (for private CD prescribing) – issued by the NHSE (London Region) CD Accountable Officer and note that this can take up to 4 weeks to be issued after request is received.

As a reminder the CD AO is William Rial and the AO's generic contact details are:

0207 932 3113 or england.londoncdaccountableoffice@nhs.net.

It would be in everyone's interests to ensure regular private prescribers of these medicines for your patients are made aware of the need to ensure they have the correct forms as well as the prescriber codes ready before the next prescription is due.

- EPS prescriptions for Tramadol and Lisamfetamine are no longer allowed.
- Emergency supply of Tramadol containing products and lisdexamfetamine are no longer allowed
- Add these four drugs to the list of drugs that require denaturing before disposal. (note that only Lisdexamfetamine requires authorised witnessing of the destruction)
- Amend all SOPs to reflect the above

Currently there have been no changes made to the existing requirements for Temazepam. Zolpidem is already a Schedule 4 CD and no further changes have been made. Number of days supply for all CD's is recommended at 30 days supply in line with good practice guidance

Other good sources for information and reference:

- RPS Briefing
- MEP 37
- NPA Briefings

This Briefing has been prepared by Pharmacy London for its member LPCs to support the Community Pharmacy Network in London

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