

**Canice Ward**  
**Head of Medicines Regulatory Group**



Department of  
**Health**

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**Community Pharmacies**

Our Ref: HE1/21/289266

Date: 18th May 2021

Dear Colleague,

**OTC Ephedrine and Pseudoephedrine Sales**

It has come to the attention of the pharmacy inspectors that there may be an unusual pattern of purchases of pseudoephedrine-containing preparations.

As you will be aware pseudoephedrine and ephedrine preparations can be used as precursors in the illicit production of dangerous Class A substances liable to misuse.

Pharmacists are asked to maintain their usual vigilance regarding sales of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine preparations and to remind staff of the legal and professional framework for sales of these products.

If you become aware of requests for such preparations at your pharmacy which you regard as unusual or excessive, please contact an inspector; Sean Curley [sean.curley@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:sean.curley@health-ni.gov.uk), Aaron McKendry [aaron.mckendry@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:aaron.mckendry@health-ni.gov.uk) or Michelle Keatings [michelle.keatings@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.keatings@health-ni.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

**Canice Ward**  
**Head of Medicines Regulatory Group**  
**Department of Health**