

**From the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer  
Mrs Cathy Harrison**



Department of  
**Health**

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

[www.health-ni.gov.uk](http://www.health-ni.gov.uk)

**BY EMAIL**

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Dear Colleague,

**RE: Falsified Medicines Directive**

The United Kingdom (UK) left the European Union (EU) on 31 January 2020 and entered into a transition period. During this transition period the whole of the UK continued to follow EU rules which came to an end on 31 December 2020.

From 1 January 2021, medicines in Northern Ireland (NI) will continue to be aligned with EU regulation and legislation as a requisite of the NI Protocol and medicines in Great Britain (GB) will not. This includes the requirement for NI to continue to follow Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD). This means end users must continue to verify and decommission medicines at the end point of supply.

The UK National Medicines Verification System (UKMVS) facilitated by SecurMed UK became UKNI MVS from 1 January 2021. End users in NI will continue to be connected to this system.

Any community pharmacy, GP practice, hospital or health centre that is required to comply with FMD and has not registered with SecurMed UK is recommended to do so now and have in place suitable equipment to comply with the Directive. More information on SecurMed UK and how to register can be found via:

<https://securmed.org.uk/>

Yours sincerely

Mrs Cathy Harrison  
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer