

Press Release



16 June 2003

NPA RESPONSE TO HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT on the Control of Entry Regulations and Retail Pharmacy Services in the UK

In response to the Health Select committee report, John D'Arcy, Chief Executive of the National Pharmaceutical Association (NPA), said:

"We are very pleased to see the Health Select Committee has recognised the clear deficiencies in the OFT report and the need to view the report in the context of pharmacy's current and developing NHS role.

"We have consistently highlighted to Government and stakeholders of the risks associated with 'playing fast and loose' with the current arrangements. But we do recognise that the current system is not perfect and agree with the Health Select Committee that service improvements should be centred on giving primary care organisations' greater flexibility in ensuring patients receive the high quality primary care that they expect and deserve."

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Notes to editors

1. The National Pharmaceutical Association (NPA) is the trade association that represents the professional and commercial interests of the owners of around 11,000 community pharmacies in the United Kingdom.
2. For more information and background to the OFT report on pharmacy services, please contact the NPA Press Office, on: 01727 85 86 87, ext. 3340 or 3227 or visit www.npa.co.uk.