

**Mr David Place** His Majesty's Assistant Coroner for the City of Sunderland Office of HM Coroner for the City of Sunderland City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland SR1 3AA

Mallinson House 38-42 St Peter's Street St Albans, Herts AL1 3NP

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Mr Place,

## Response to the Regulation 28 Report to prevent future deaths - Jason BROWN (Deceased)

This is the National Pharmacy Association's (NPA) response to your Regulation 28 report made under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and Regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013, dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024, following the tragic death of Jason Brown on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Our response is based on the information contained in the Regulation 28 report, as we were not an Interested Person or involved in the Inquest into the death of Mr Brown.

We are very saddened to hear about the death of Mr Brown and I would like to express our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

The NPA is a trade association and representative voice of independent community pharmacies across the United Kingdom and a key provider of services to the pharmacy sector. The vast majority of the approximately 6,000 independent community pharmacies in the UK are NPA Members.

## Matter of concern

"Deaths may be prevented if the original pack dispensing guidance was reviewed for this medication."

The NPA has no influence over determining if/whether a particular medicine has a special container status. We can only advise our member pharmacies to follow the special container status rules as set out by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) in the Drug Tariff (Part II Clause 10), and Schedule 4 of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, which all pharmacy contractors are required to follow.

We will, however, raise concerns over Zuclopenthixol dihydrochloride (clopixol) coming in packs of and having a special container status at forthcoming meetings with the DHSC. You might consider that the DHSC is a more appropriate body to include in this Regulation 28 Report as they are ultimately responsible for the regulatory system.

Thank you again for highlighting the matter of concern and giving us the opportunity to respond.

Yours sincerely,

**Director of External & Corporate Affairs** National Pharmacy Association

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