



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society
of Great Britain**

Law and Ethics Bulletin Child Resistant Packaging

Pharmacists are reminded that re-closable child-resistant packaging must be treated as a complete system. If an item is not dispensed in the manufacturer's original pack the pharmacist should ensure that the closure is suitable for use with the container body and that the re-closable child-resistant packaging has been tested and complies with the relevant British Standard.

Pharmacists should also take steps to satisfy themselves that any child resistant closures purchased have been tested for child resistance according to the British Standard, and that they only use the specific container bodies tested with the closures.

If an item is not dispensed in the manufacturer's original pack, child-resistant packaging appropriate for the medicine being supplied should be used.

Further information:

The Professional Standards and Guidance document titled 'Sale and Supply of Medicines' outlines the professional requirements for the use of child-resistant packaging. The standard requires that all solid dose and all oral and external liquid preparations must be dispensed in reclosable child resistant containers unless one of the five exemptions applies.

The Medicines (Child Safety) Regulations 2003 sets out legal requirements relating to the packaging of medicinal products consisting of or containing aspirin, paracetamol or more than 24mg of elemental iron. See:

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2003/20032317.htm>

Further information about suppliers of such containers and closures will be available in the Information resources section of the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org) or by contacting the Practice Division (email: practice@rpsgb.org).