Dear Colleague

A COMMON UNDERSTANDING: GUIDANCE ON JOINT WORKING BETWEEN NHSScotland AND THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

Summary

1. The Scottish Executive’s strategy for pharmaceutical care, “The Right Medicine: A Strategy for Pharmaceutical Care in Scotland” was published in February 2002. The Strategy committed the Executive to produce guidance on joint working between NHSScotland and the Pharmaceutical Industry, which is transparent and improves patient care.

Purpose

2. The guidance aims to establish a common understanding on joint working by highlighting examples of good practice and a model joint working framework that will help ensure responsibility, transparency and probity in the joint working process.

Action by Health Boards and Trusts

3. Chief Executives are asked to ensure that the guidance is drawn to the attention of all appropriate managers and staff.

4. Chief Executives are asked to establish a register of interest for all NHS employees and Primary Care contractors and produce local standing orders specifying who is responsible for keeping and maintaining the register.

5. A copy of this letter and the guidance is available on the Scottish Executive website: http://www.scotland.gov.uk and the SHOW website http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk as is a copy of the press release covering the launch.

Yours sincerely

TREVOR JONES
Chief Executive

12th December 2003

Addresses

For action
Chief Executives, NHS Boards
Chief Executives, NHS Trusts

For information
Medical Directors
Directors of Nursing Services
Trust Chief Pharmacists
Scottish Specialists in Pharmaceutical Public Health
Chief Executive, CSA
Community Pharmacists
GPs

Enquiries to:

Mr Bill Scott
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer
St Andrew’s House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG
Tel: 0131-244 2518
Fax: 0131-244 2375
email: bill.scott@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
http://www.scotland.gov.uk

Additional copies

Leslie Smith
Pharmacy Division
St Andrew’s House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG
Tel: 0131 244 2040
Fax: 0131 244 2375
email: leslie.smith@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
http://www.scotland.gov.uk