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Dear Pharmacist

**POISONS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT**  
**- Section 28 (1)(b) Supply of S3 pseudoephedrine by pharmacists**

I am writing to announce the mandating of recording of certain details for retail sales of Schedule 3 pseudoephedrine products by pharmacists. This important initiative in combating the illicit amphetamine industry was a suggestion of the Pharmacy Guild (NT Branch), and after consultation with the Guild, it has been decided that the commencement date will be the 1 April 2008.

The intention is to mandate recording for all retail supplies by pharmacists to end-users in the community. The manner of recording is not specified, but provision of identification by the purchaser is required. The preferred option is therefore to use the real-time online application Project STOP which is made available by the Pharmacy Guild.

There is no intention to mandate recording for bulk supplies to health centres or hospitals, as these supplies are a wholesale function for which records are already required to be kept. Supplies at military premises are also not included, as these are not retail supplies. Medications provided to hospital in-patients which are already recorded on the hospital medication chart are also excluded.

This new legal requirement will bring the Territory into line with each of our neighbouring states, and reduce the likelihood of people travelling from interstate to source pseudoephedrine products here. NT Police have access to Project STOP and will soon be able to act promptly in response to alerts from the online application.

Please contact the Pharmacy Guild (NT Branch) for information on Project STOP training sessions (Ph 8982 1024), or Poisons Control if you have questions about legal requirements (ph 8922 7341). A copy of the legal notice is attached.

Yours sincerely

Dr Steven Skov  
Chief Health Officer  
10 March 2008