General Pharmaceutical Council



Enforcement action summary (Conditions)

Pharmacy trading name: Al Shafa Pharmacy

Pharmacy address:

93 Shireland Road, Smethwick, West Midlands, B66 4QJ

Premises registration number:

1103406

Enforcement action taken:

Conditions on pharmacy premises - (The Medicines Act - Section 74D)

Effective date:

Conditions 1 and 2 - effective from 10/12/2020 Conditions 3 - effective from 13/02/2025

Premises standards failed:

1.1, 4.2 at inspection on 5 February 2025.

Summary:

An inspection of the pharmacy 2 December 2020 found inadequate risk management and safeguarding in place in relation to the over-the-counter supply of codeine linctus and promethazine containing medicines which presented a serious risk to patient safety. The nature of the failings was such that Conditions were required to protect the safety and wellbeing of the public.

A further inspection of the pharmacy on 5 February 2025 found systemic weaknesses in the governance arrangements and a lack of appropriate safeguards for the online sales of Pharmacy-only and General Sales List medicines provided through a third-party digital platform. The risks were heightened by the nature of some of the medicines available to purchase which are known to be at risk of being abused, misused, or overused. It was identified that these medicines were being supplied in conjunction with Cape Hill Pharmacy (1085356).

Conditions imposed:

1. The pharmacy must not obtain, sell or supply any codeine linctus preparations, except when supplying these medicines against an NHS prescription.

2. The pharmacy must not obtain, sell or supply preparations in which the only active ingredient is promethazine, such as Phenergan preparations, except when supplying these medicines against an NHS prescription.

3. The pharmacy must not sell or supply any medicines or medical devices via any distance selling service model, including through a website, digital platform, or by post/courier, except for fulfilling NHS prescriptions.

Outcome:

Ongoing