

21 June 2018

Therapeutic Goods Administration
PO Box 100
WODEN ACT 2606

Dear Therapeutic Goods Administration,

RE: Sedating antihistamines: proposed additional advisory statements for medicines

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia is the national professional organisation for more than 5,000 pharmacists, pharmacists in training, pharmacy technicians and associates working across Australia's health system. SHPA is committed to facilitating the safe and effective use of medicines, which is the core business of pharmacists, especially in hospitals. SHPA supports pharmacists to meet medication and related service needs, so that both optimal health outcomes and economic objectives are achieved for Australians, as individuals, for the community as a whole, and for healthcare facilities within our systems of healthcare.

SHPA supports the amendments to entries in the *Required Advisory Statements for Medicine Labels* for sedating antihistamines, to:

- *This medication may cause drowsiness.*
- *Do not give to children under 'x' years of age.*
- *Do not give to children aged between 'x' and 'y' years of age, except on the advice of a doctor, pharmacist or nurse practitioner.*

SHPA believes that these changes should be included in the Product Information and Consumer Medicines Information (CMI) for these medicines, and that all medicine boxes should contain a CMI leaflet.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss our submission further, please do not hesitate to contact Johanna de Wever, General Manager, Advocacy and Leadership on jdewever@shpa.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kristin Michaels'.

Kristin Michaels
Chief Executive Officer