



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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28 February 2020

Dear Sheuli,

**Health and Sport Committee – Inquiry into the Supply and Demand for Medicines**

Many thanks for giving evidence to the Committee on 18 February 2020. The Committee appreciates your time and is grateful for the information you supplied.

During exchanges with the Committee on patient adherence to prescriptions, you highlighted the importance of feedback for the pharmaceutical industry on why people may not take a medicine. The Committee would welcome further detail as to if and how this currently happens, and the speed at which the industry is able to react to such information by providing an improved product.

You also provided evidence on the re-use of medicines and the storage conditions required for certain medicines. The Committee would welcome further detail of which medicines have sufficiently stringent storage requirements that patients would compromise their efficacy if they did not handle them correctly, both for their own use and for the potential use of others. The Committee is seeking to ascertain whether this represents a significant proportion of medicines.

Similarly, the Committee is interested in how packaging could be utilised to demonstrate a product had not been opened and/or had been kept in the appropriate conditions. The Committee would welcome detail from you on consideration and research undertaken by the industry into how packaging could prove the quality of

storage (for example at the correct temperature) and the lack of interference with contents.

You also undertook to keep the Committee up to date with the ABPI's work on sustainability this year.

This information would be most usefully received by 4 March 2020 and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lewis Macdonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue ink color.

Lewis Macdonald  
Convener, Health and Sport Committee