HEALTH AND SPORT COMMITTEE
THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR MEDICINES
SUBMISSION FROM Munro Stewart

Returned Medication

This is an individual submission. I am a GP, part of East Scotland RCGP Faculty Board.

Can I suggest that medication which are returned sealed should be reused or redistributed. It is estimated that about a third of the medication wasted are unused and returned to pharmacies. i

A large part of the waste of medication is medication returned. If seals are checked the extremely low risk of harm to patients from these medication should not be sufficient to justify disposal of returned medication.

This is wasteful practice and goes against realistic medicine and our need to become more sustainable with the current climate crisis.

It has been studied that over 60% of patients would accept this. ii

Many thanks,

Dr Munro Stewart

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i http://www.medicinewaste.com/campaign
ii https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/5/e024767