

衛生署藥物辦公室  
藥物評審及警戒科  
香港九龍觀塘巧明街 100 號  
Landmark East 友邦九龍大樓  
20 樓 2002-05 室



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DRUG OFFICE  
DRUG EVALUATION AND  
PHARMACOVIGILANCE DIVISION  
Suites 2002-05, 20/F, AIA Kowloon Tower,  
Landmark East, 100 How Ming Street,  
Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong

本署檔號 Our Ref. : DH DO PRIE/1-55/1

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15 June 2026

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Regulation of medical gases as pharmaceutical products has been in force since 14 June 2026**

The Drug Office of the Department of Health reminds you that the regulation of medical gases as pharmaceutical products has been in force since 14 June 2026. All companies involved in the manufacture, wholesale or retail sale of medical gases must obtain the relevant drug dealer's licence(s) in accordance with the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance (Cap. 138) (the Ordinance) in order to operate lawfully. In addition, medical gases must be registered with the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (the Board) of Hong Kong before they can be legally sold in Hong Kong, ensuring that the products meet the required standards of safety, efficacy and quality.

Any person who illegally possesses or sells pharmaceutical products or prescription drugs that are not registered under the Ordinance, or who operates the manufacture or wholesale of pharmaceutical products without the relevant licence, commits a criminal offence. The maximum penalty for each offence is a fine of \$100,000 and two years' imprisonment upon conviction.

Drug retailers that only engage in the retail sale of medical gases that are not specified in the Poisons List under the Ordinance (such as medical oxygen), are not required to hold a retail licence.

The Board decided on 14 June 2024, that medical gases should be regulated as pharmaceutical products under the Ordinance. In addition, pharmaceutical products containing nitrous oxide (laughing gas) and nitric oxide should be

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regulated as prescription drugs. A two-year preparation period has been provided to the trade for obtaining the relevant licences and registering their related products.

A list of local licensed traders dealing with medical gases and a list of medical gases registered as pharmaceutical products have been uploaded on the website of the Drug Office of the Department of Health ([http://www.drugoffice.gov.hk/eps/do/en/pharmaceutical\\_trade/medical\\_gases\\_regulation.html](http://www.drugoffice.gov.hk/eps/do/en/pharmaceutical_trade/medical_gases_regulation.html)).

Should you have any enquiries, please feel free to contact Ms. Tracy WONG at 3974 4169 for product registration matters and Mr. Alex WONG at 3107 3497 for trader licensing matters.

Yours faithfully,



(C. CHEUNG)  
for Director of Health