

Pharmacy name

Address

Address

Postcode

Telephone number

 Date

Dear Practice Manager/Prescriber

**Re. Pregabalin - Confidential**

I have received a prescription for generic pregabalin issued for [enter patient’s name] [enter patient’s DOB or NHS number] and have been made aware that it has been issued for the treatment of neuropathic pain.

At present, generic versions of pregabalin are not able to be provided for the treatment of neuropathic pain. The patent for this indication is held by Pfizer and unless or until the patent expires or is held to be invalid, it would contravene the patent if a generic is dispensed for neuropathic pain.

So as to enable us to provide treatment for this patient, could you please reissue the prescription ordering the branded product Lyrica®. I am sorry that the patient could be inconvenienced and that the patent causes additional work for your practice, but Pfizer has made it very clear that breaches of the patent could lead to legal action being taken.

For further information on this matter please refer to Schedule 1: The Pregabalin Guidance issued by NHS England (NHS England Gateway Reference: 03126). Alternatively, visit the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee website (psnc.org.uk/dispensing-of-lyrica), or contact your Clinical Commissioning Group.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter.

Yours sincerely

Name of pharmacist

Pharmacist