

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 8th March 2018

PAGB response to antihistamines and impaired male fertility

John Smith, PAGB Chief Executive, comments: “We welcome any new research* on over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, but this report focuses exclusively on previous and known studies of the effects of antihistamines on animals. The researchers’ key conclusion is that further human clinical studies are needed before any clear links between antihistamines and male fertility can be established.

“People taking OTC antihistamines should not be concerned by this research. Antihistamines are an effective and appropriately safe way to provide relief from symptoms of allergies if used in accordance with the clear on-pack instructions and the patient information leaflet inside. Anyone who has any concerns about taking a medicine should speak to a pharmacist for advice. Pharmacists are highly trained healthcare professionals and can provide useful information and guidance on OTC medicines.”

**A study carried out by researchers at the Instituto de Biología y Medicines Experimental (YBIME-CONICET) and published in the journal Reproduction has suggested that the use of antihistamines could be linked to impaired fertility in men.*

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Notes to editors:

PAGB (Proprietary Association of Great Britain) is the UK trade association representing manufacturers of branded over-the-counter medicines, self care medical devices and food supplements.

For further information, please contact Pegasus: Lauren Walker or Amy Skinner on 01273 712000 / PAGB@thisispegasus.co.uk