



# Health and Social Care Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From Steve Brine MP

Letter by email to

4 May 2023

Dear Steve

I'm writing to raise a matter that was drawn to my attention by a hospital consultant who also happens to be a constituent. He contacted me about the consequences to the NHS of the change to UKCA marking, with particular reference to the use of spinal needles to perform invasive prenatal tests.

He reports that his hospital is having difficulty obtaining the needles as the manufacturer they have previously used does not want to go to the expense of obtaining UKCA marking and has therefore withdrawn their product from UK sales. Sourcing alternatives is proving time consuming and the end result unsatisfactory as the needles do not perform as needed. He notes that the previously used products have not become unsafe and already have CE approval.

I'm writing to ask what plans the Department has to address this situation, and specifically whether the Department has any plans to recognise CE approval so that separate UK approval is not required.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

**Steve Brine MP**  
**Chair, Health and Social Care Committee**