



DRAFT LAW ON THE REMOTE RETAIL TRADE IN MEDICINES IN RUSSIA



On 13 December 2017, the State Duma of the Russian Federation adopted in the first reading the draft Federal Law aimed at the legalisation of remote retail trade in medicines (hereinafter - the 'Draft Law').

According to the changes introduced by the Draft Law into Federal Law No. 61-FZ dated 12 April 2010 'On Circulation of Medicines', it is intended to grant the right to conduct remote retail trade (including trade via Internet) in the OTC medicines for medical and veterinary use to pharmacy organisations and veterinary pharmacy organisations.

At the same time, the Draft Law envisages prohibition of remote retail trade in prescription medicines. To this end, the Federal Law No. 149-FZ dated 27 July 2006 'On Information, Information Technologies and Information Protection' shall be amended as follows: domain names and(or) indexes of pages of web-sites containing information on the remote retail trade in prescription medicines, as well as network addresses that allow to identify such web-sites will be included in the 'Unified Register of Domain Names, Indexes of Pages of Web-Sites and Network Addresses that Allow Identifying Web-Sites Containing Information, Dissemination of Which is Prohibited in the Russian Federation' and, accordingly, blocked in the territory of Russia.

The amendments are expected to become effective from 1 January 2018.

According to the explanatory note to the Draft Law, upon its adoption the respective changes shall be also made to the Order of the Ministry of Healthcare of Russia No. 647n dated 31 August 2016 'On the Approval of the Rules for the Good Pharmacy Practice on Medicines for Medical Use' in order to establish the specifics of the remote retail trade in medicines for medical use. Therefore, violation of the Rules for the Remote Retail Trade in Medicines for Medical Use will constitute an administrative offense involving the administrative liability provided for by Article 14.4.2 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation.

Best Regards,

GRATA International Law Firm (Moscow)

Corporate and Commercial Law Department

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What we do:

- advising on the requirements and restriction regarding the import and circulation in Russia and other states of medicines and medical products;
- advising and legal support in participating in public procurement;
- advising on compliance of advertising and marketing materials and activities, marking, packing, and labels to regulatory requirements;
- representing interests in the course of public discussions of the drafts of regulatory legal acts including acts of Eurasian Economic Commission.

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