



Covid-19: Medicines Criticality Assessment Group

via teleconference

Actions- from Friday, 19th June 2020

Attendees: HSE: Kathy Hassell (PCRS), Risteard Prendergast (PCRS), Lisa Kelly (PCRS), Kate Mulvenna (PCRS), Shane Doyle (AHDMP), Fionnuala King (AHDMP), Patricia Heckmann (NCCP), Mairead O'Connor (MMUH)

DoH: Eamonn Quinn, Breifne O'Rourke, Rosaleen Cahill

HPRA: Grainne Power, Emer O'Neill, Darren Scully, Larry O'Dwyer

Clinicians: Prof. Pat Murray

Agenda

1. DoH Update
 2. Clinician updates
 3. Updates from HPRA
 4. Updates from AHDMP
 5. Updates from PCERS
 6. Others
 7. AOB
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Open Actions

No	Action Detail	Owner	By When	Latest Update	Status
1	Supplies of midazolam	AHDMP/ PCRS		PCRS satisfied there are no immediate concerns re. supply One presentation of midazolam not with the wholesaler. AHDMP communication has issued; hospitals advised to defer to MAH re. available presentations, due to fluid short-term situation.	Open



				Watching brief to be maintained.	
2	Report on Meds CAG progress to date to be drafted.	DoH		Chair has requested that paper be drafted to include both Medicines and Medical Devices CAG. Once updated DoH will circulate to the group again. Awaiting update from Medical Devices colleagues & will be circulated to group again.	Open
3	Research Subgroup of EAG to reply to comments submitted	Prof. Colm Bergin		It is understood that a revised version of paper has been submitted to EAG subgroup. Awaiting outcome	Open
4	Palliative Care recommendations issued by Mental Health Commission	DoH		DoH to compile obs and issue to group members; DoH to issue correspondence of same to clinical leads Ongoing. DoH hopes to issue through the group chair in coming week.	Open
5	Group to consider longer-term actions required to address potential second wave and overlap with Brexit-related issues	All		Awaiting instructions re. restructuring of NPHE. Watching brief to be maintained.	Open
6	Adrenaline products for pharmacy flu vaccine programme	DoH & HPRA	8 June	Manufacturers require estimations of demand by mid-June. DOH to consider potential HPRA / IPU survey of projected demand.	Open
7	Dexamethasone supplies	AHDMP & PCERS		AHDMP have monitored supplies since March. Significant stock currently in place. Treatment of Covid-19 would have limited impact on stocks. AHDMP and PCERS to align on guidance to issue on usage of dex. HPRA to be included in circulation of same.	Open

Ongoing actions

No	Action Detail	Owner	Latest Update	Status
1	Monitoring of supplies of medicines:		No significant updates	Open



A	-used in Irish hospitals that may be used to treat Covid 19.	AHDMP,	Critical Care supplies described as stable. AHDMP engaging with Clinical Trial Groups	
B	-used in Irish hospitals to treat secondary infections and provide supportive care	AHDMP	Waiting on CION response to submission to ICU Joint Procurement.	
C	-used in wider hospital system	AHDMP, NCCP and PCRS	No significant updates. NCCP reopening services; no problems with supplies of medicines.	
D	- in primary care	PCRS and HPRA	No significant updates, supplies would appear to be stabilising. Some shortages are arising, but not necessarily directly related to Covid-19. Being addressed under the Medicine Shortages Framework	
2	Supply of neuromuscular blockers	AHDMP	Supplies are currently stable. Subject to ongoing monitoring.	Open
3	PCRS to update Group on mechanism to limit <i>de novo</i> patients on hydroxychloroquine for antiviral purposes	PCRS	No significant updates No changes to wholesaler allocations. De novo rheumatology patients are being swiftly approved. HCQ has been removed from updated antiviral guidance.	Open
4	Updates from Irish Epidemiological Modelling Advisory Group	DoH	Awaiting response from Modelling Group. Chair to raise dependencies on modelling for Medicines and Medical Devices group. No Update.	Open
5	Wholesaler activities/ parallel export activities	HPRA	No new update since last MCAG meeting.	Open
6	European Steering Group update	HPRA	Ad hoc subgroup of the Steering Group has been set up with task of centrally forecasting MS needs for ICU products. Meetings to take place weekly from Mon. 22 Jun. ESG will link this ad hoc subgroup's work with any JP procedures.	Open
7	Clarification of guidance for nursing homes in relation to storage of small stock of emergency medicines for EOL care.	HSE National Quality Improvement /DoH	DoH in dialogue with NMBI and PSI around legislative basis of current guidance. Ongoing. DoH has had conversations with HPRA & PSI.	Open
8	Communication with stakeholders	DoH	Stakeholder call took place 8 June. Collaboration between stakeholders acknowledged and appreciated by all.	Open



9	API availability	HPRA	<p>HPRA flagged an emerging issue from EU Stakeholder Group; potential supply constraints on availability of APIs. General decrease in stocks held. Watching brief to be maintained on the issue for now</p> <p>EU steering group are also keeping a watching brief.</p> <p>DoH conveying concern to CION.</p> <p>HPRA requested examples/concerns from MFI and IPHA by 5 Jun.</p>	Open
10	Apparent spike in Fluoxetine draw-down	PCRS	<p>Group to keep a watching brief. PCRS awaiting response from P&R network.</p> <p>PCRS issued temporary code for reimbursement of alternative supplies;</p>	Open

Decisions:

1. It was decided that the next Medicines CAG t/c would take place Friday, 3 July.

Notes:

1. HCQ removed from antiviral guidance; HCQ arm of Solidarity study has been removed.
2. Dexamethasone unlikely to be in routine use to treat Covid-19 in short-term.

Closed Actions:

7	Oseltamivir supplies	AHDMP & PCRS	8 June	<p>AHDMP to share information on how much stock in place; expiry dates may be more difficult to compile.</p> <p>PCRS to examine usage in community.</p> <p>HPRA to provide additional figures on 2019 supply to Ireland.</p>	Closed
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