



Medical Devices Criticality Assessment Group
Thursday, 19th March 2020

Attendees: **HSE:** Fergal Collins, Emma Benton, Pat O'Connor, Prof. George Mellotte, Dr. Michael Power, Ger Flynn, Anne Louise Neenan, Brendan White, John Hennessy
HPRA: Nicola Hickie, Niall MacAleenan, Judith Martin
DoH: Breifne O'Rourke, Colm O'Loughlin, Karen McNamara

Apologies: **HSE:** Sean Bresnan
DoH: Mary Hyland

- Usage of testing swabs and PPE are being carefully managed, in order to maintain supplies in the context of the currently challenging global market conditions.
- It was confirmed that hand sanitiser gels are going to be produced indigenously. This will secure short, medium and long-term stability of supplies and address the risk posed by a global shortage.
- HSE examining possible transport for a number of orders currently sitting outside of Ireland in order to ensure physical receipt of ordered materials. This is being pursued as a means to ensure security of deliveries, as market conditions are extremely volatile. HSE working with OGP on this.
- DoH have been in contact with a private sector non-medical company who may be capable of assisting the supply of a sourced stock of FFP2 masks, thermometers, as well as contributing procurement and supply logistics. HSE will provide a contact in order to liaise with DoH and the company in leveraging this assistance.
- Global market for devices and PPE is now compromised by an increased amount of counterfeit products. Compliance with regulatory frameworks in procurement therefore remains a priority, even as preparatory procurement for any potential surge is pursued as a matter of urgency.
 - HPRA are available to assist in assessments of products for regulatory compliance, if necessary.
- It was noted that much of this Group's work is partially dependent on modelling of projected demand which will be shared with the Group insofar as possible.
- Testing swabs: pursuance of quality assurance certification for a stock of swabs in the country is being prioritised in order to facilitate current testing strategy recommended by NPHE.