



## Covid-19: Medicines Criticality Group

Department of Health, Miesian Plaza,

Actions – from Friday, 24th April 2020

No	Action Detail	Owner	By When	Latest Update	Status
1	Monitoring of medicines used in Irish hospitals that may be used to treat Covid 19, to treat secondary infections and as supportive treatments	AHDMP, NCCP & PCRS	Ongoing	No significant update.	Open
2	MAHs to be contacted re availability of investigational therapeutics	AHDMP & PCRS	Ongoing		Open
3	Securing ICU EMP supplies,	AHDMP	31/03	<p>NMBAs to remain at amber, over the coming weeks, barring a sharp increase in ICU occupancy.</p> <p>Department of Health to see could Meds. Group present to clinical leadership forum on the above.</p> <p>Mechanism for flagging potential local shortages to be considered by AHDMP</p> <p>Group waiting on CION response to submission to ICU Joint Procurement.</p> <p><b>[RISK MITIGATION OUTLINED BELOW]</b></p>	Open



Neuromuscular blocking agents – increased global demand and limited availability					
Risk Mitigation Strategy			Action Owner	Risk Status	
Support prescribing of the therapeutic class, not just one moiety within the class			Critical Care Programme and Prescribers	Medium	
Centrally engage with MAH holders and suppliers of unlicensed drugs to ensure additional stocks are secured			AHDMP	Medium	
Watching brief by HPRA Medicines Shortages unit and AHDMP to identify early disruptions to supply			AHDMP/HPRA	Medium	
Escalation of European wide supply chain vulnerability to EU Commission			DOH	Medium	
4	HSE Modelling data to be shared with group when available	DoH	Ongoing	Group to review shared ICU modelling data ahead of Tuesday's meeting	Open
5	PCRS to update Group on mechanism to limit <i>de novo</i> patients on hydroxychloroquine for antiviral purposes	PCRS	Ongoing	No spike in hydroxychloroquine usage observed as of yet. PCRS steps appear to be working. PCRS seeing some community initiated prescriptions which are being declined. Consultant initiated being approved  PCRS and HPRA have agreed a mechanism to increase allocation for specific pharmacies for genuine <i>de novo</i> prescriptions	Open
6	Parallel exporting	HPRA		DoH to circulate HPRA correspondence with companies licensed to carry out parallel export. HPRA continue to liaise with companies involved in export from Irish market. Companies very cooperative to date. Two main wholesalers to be informed of correspondence in HPRA's Monday call.	Open
7	Export prohibitions	HPRA/ DOH		Department of Health to engage with DOH colleagues to enable approach to UK Department of Health and Social Care to be made	Open
8	Use of anti-coagulants.	AHDMP		Updated VTE guidance published on Thursday. Work continues on two other documents for different patient cohorts but with significant	Open



				overlap: anticoagulant requirements for more critical Covid patients and Nephrology requirements due to hypercoagulation	
9	European industry-led study on ICU meds demand	HPRA & DoH		HPRA update: Overlap between industry-led study and JP has been flagged. Concerns about industry approach to be discussed in upcoming European meetings.	Open
10	Report on Meds CAG progress to date to be drafted. Analysis of work to date, as measured against European Commission guidelines on optimal and rational use of drugs to be drafted.	DoH		Agreement that it is timely to undertake review. DoH to draft initial document for member inputs and comments	Open
11	Department of Health to look into how information on approved clinical trials can be shared with local clinicians and/or Meds CAG	DoH			Open
12	Awaiting HIQA clarification to inform guidelines for nursing homes in relation to storage of small stock of emergency medicines.	HSE National Quality Improvement			Open
13	Department of Health to share with PCRS the list of products banned by France for export.	DoH			Open

**Decisions:**

1. Deirdre O'Reilly from the Irish Prison Services has agreed that the weekly Addiction Services t/c, facilitated by HSE National Quality Improvement is the best forum for her to represent IPS matters related to Covid-19. MP can bring any issues from this forum to the newly established HSE Community Pharmacy Contingency Planning forum. Therefore, Deirdre won't take part in the Meds CAG meetings going forward
2. To compile report on progress achieved by Subgroup to date.

**ACTIONS CLOSED ON 24 April**



1	Monitoring of medicines used in Irish hospitals that may be used to treat Covid 19, to treat secondary infections and as supportive treatments	AHDMP, NCCP & PCRS	24/04	<p>AMRIC to confirm publication of v3 of antiviral protocol. Azithromycin removed. Outcome measures included, as per WHO guidance.</p> <p>Documents shared with group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Version 3 of the antiviral guideline with two major changes, a) the removal of azithromycin b) additional criteria to be satisfied prior to the prescribing of an investigational agent</li><li>2. Version 4 of the rapid evidence review of antivirals in COVID-19, used to inform the guideline</li><li>3. A one-pager on Antimicrobial Stewardship in COVID-19.</li></ol>	CLOSED
3	Securing ICU EMP supplies,	AHDMP	31/03	AHDMP to provide update on needs as occupancy info comes in towards end of week and anticipated JPA for ICU drugs.	CLOSED
7	Establishment of a stakeholder forum, to operate outside Subgroup meetings	Department of Health / PSI	17/04	<p>HSE Community Pharmacy Contingency Planning Forum held its first meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.</p> <p>5 themes emerging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Managing the new normal</li><li>Promoting confidence in using services, Community Pharmacy, GP etc.</li><li>Mental Health Supports</li><li>Streamlining of appropriate communication channels</li><li>Considering medium to longer term issues</li></ul>	CLOSED
10	DoH to consider updating communications lines	Department of Health			CLOSED
12	Observations to be returned to EAG Research Subgroup re. clinical trial framework	DoH		MCAG to submit any further obs on EAG subgroup document. Submissions returned to Prof Bergin and shared with MCAG.	CLOSED



13	European Commission ICU Joint procurement: DoH to convene conference call to inform Ireland's submission for participation	DoH	23/04	A subgroup was convened on 23 April to inform and ratify the work of the HSE AHDMP to model Ireland's ICU medicine requirements and this was submitted to the Commission. Dr Michael Power of Critical Care National Clinical Programme sat on this subgroup.	CLOSED
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