



Covid-19: Medicines Criticality Assessment Group

via teleconference

Actions- from Friday, 29th May 2020

Attendees: HSE: Muriel Pate (HSE National Quality Improvement), Kathy Hassell (PCRS), Risteard Prendergast (PCRS), Lisa Kelly (PCRS), Kate Mulvenna (PCRS), Shane Doyle (AHDMP), Fionnuala King (AHDMP), Marie Philbin (AMRIC), 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. Colm Bergin

Agenda

1. DoH Update
 2. Clinician updates
 - a. Questions from group
 3. Review of open actions
 4. AOB
 5. Medicines Criticality Review
 6. HSE update on communication with MAHs
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Open Actions

No	Action Detail	Owner	By When	Latest Update	Status
1	Supplies of midazolam	AHDMP/ PCRS		One presentation of midazolam not with the wholesaler. AHDMP communication has issued; correction to issue re. above delay Run rate has returned to 'pre-Covid' levels. Based on that there are 7-8 weeks of stock in country	Open
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	Open



				updated DoH will circulate to the group again. Awaiting update from Medical Devices colleagues & will be circulated to group again.	
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 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 NEPHET. 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	Oseltamivir supplies	AHDMP & PCRS	8 June	AHDMP to share information on how much stock in place; expiry dates may be more difficult to compile. PCRS to examine usage in community. HPRA to provide figures on 2019 supply to Ireland.	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.	



B	-used in Irish hospitals to treat secondary infections and provide supportive care	AHDMP	AHDMP engaging with Clinical Trial Groups 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	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. HPRA's next call with wholesalers is this week on Thursday.	Open
6	European Steering Group update	HPRA	European Steering Group met again last Wednesday: HPRA emphasised to Steering Group the need to progress study; aligned with other MS	Open
7	Clarification of guidance for nursing homes in relation to storage of small stock of emergency medicines for EOL care.	HSE National Quality ImprovementDoH	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	This T/C meeting is to be held on Monday, 08 th June at 4pm. DoH advised Meds CAG would be extended an invitation to this call.	Open
10	API availability	HPRA	HPRA flagged an emerging issue from EU Stakeholder Group; potential supply constraints on availability of APIs. General decrease in stocks held.	Open



			Watching brief to be maintained on the issue for now EU steering group are also keeping a watching brief. DoH conveying concern to CION. HPRA requested examples/concerns from MFI and IPHA by 5 Jun.	
11	Apparent spike in Fluoxetine draw-down	PCRS	Group to keep a watching brief. PCRS awaiting response from P&R network. PCRS issued temporary code for reimbursement of alternative supplies;	Open

Decisions:

1. It was decided that the Medicines CAG t/c would not go-ahead next Friday, 05th June due to shareholder t/c scheduled for Monday, 08th June.
2. MCAG to stand down regular request for updates with wholesalers and MAHs. Situation remains stable and supply chain stakeholders to flag any emerging risks as they arise.
3. MCAG, as per open action #6, to await possible NPHEP restructuring before deciding on revised approach in cognisance of work required on Brexit and the need for a modified approach in relation to critical care drugs ahead of any potential 'second wave'.

Notes:

1. It was noted that India has lifted all remaining restrictions on the export of paracetamol API.

Closed Actions:

8	DoH to share with PCRS the list of products banned by France for export.	DoH	HPRA provided response from French colleagues. Restrictions focused on parallel exports.	Closed
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