



## Covid-19: Medicines Criticality Assessment Group

via teleconference

### Actions- from Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

**Attendees:** HSE: Fionnuala King (AHDMP), Marie Philbin (AMRIC), Mairead O'Connor (MMUH), Kathy Hassell (PCRS), Kate Mulvenna (PCRS), Patricia Heckmann (NCCP)

**DoH:** Eamonn Quinn, Breifne O'Rourke

**HPRA:** Darren Scully, Larry O'Dwyer

**Clinicians:** Prof. Pat Murray

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#### 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		PCERS satisfied there are no immediate concerns re. supply. Slower usage than usual.  One MAH recently pulled on strength (~3 months stock).  One presentation of midazolam not with the wholesaler.  AHDMP communication has issued; hospitals advised to defer to MAH re.	Open



				available presentations, due to fluid short-term situation.  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 Fergal Goodman 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.	Open
7	Dexamethasone supplies	AHDMP & PCRS		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.	



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.  AHDMP working with HPRA on building local hospital resilience of supplies, inc. a constructive meeting in which hospital representatives were informed of broader picture factors	
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.  One NMB will not be available until approximately mid-August. Hospitals are working with alternatives and service not impacted.	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.  Group to consider standing down of	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.	Open



			ESG will link this ad hoc subgroup's work with any JP procedures. HPRA flagging to European colleagues the need to prevent duplication of efforts across organisations.	
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	Trade associations have communicated to HPRA that they welcome incoming correspondence re. Brexit preparedness.	Open
9	API availability	HPRA	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  EU steering group are also keeping a watching brief.  DoH conveying concern to CION.  HPRA requested examples/concerns from MFI and IPHA	Open
10	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 next Medicines CAG t/c would take place Friday, 17 July. Written updates to be submitted 10 July.

### Notes:

2. Review of NPHE structures ongoing.
3. MDCAG minutes have been uploaded and MCAG are being reviewed ahead of upload.
4. European modelling group on ICU medicines is now running.
5. EMA has been approached by a vaccines group (trade association).