



**Medical Devices Criticality Assessment Group**  
**Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

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

**Apologies:** **HSE:** Sean Bresnan, John Hennessy, John Griffin

- Ventilators:
  - Procurement underway to increase stocks in case of future surge requirements.
  - All hospitals remain fully serviced.
  - Current challenges:
    - Global restrictions on exports of ventilators and component parts.
    - Volatile market leading to significantly increased prices
    - Larger economies limiting scope of Irish entry to market for orders on ventilators.
- Oxygen supply:
  - HSE assessment of hospital oxygen delivery infrastructure is ongoing.
  - Supplies of cylinders being examined with a view to strengthening supply lines.
- Testing equipment:
  - Stocks of swabs strengthening, with pressure on supply also reducing, as compared with recent weeks.
  - A number of tests are undergoing validation in hospital laboratories. Health Technology Assessment is underway with HIQA
  - Continued work on diversifying test sources remains important, as emphasised by emerging global shortages of testing reagents.
- PPE:
  - Supplies from first air delivery from China (29 March) are being distributed.
  - FFP2 masks in the above delivery were reclassified upon inspection to surgical masks; none were used as FFP2 in a clinical setting, prior to this inspection. Indigenous manufacturer in the process of ramping up production has therefore been asked to adjust capacity to produce FFP2 accordingly.
  - Irish manufacture of disposable masks is a few weeks away.
- CRRT machines:
  - HSE liaising with manufacturer to explore options to increase supply capacity.
  - CRRT machines will be crucial to ICUs in the event of surge conditions.