

Responding to COVID-19



Member of National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE)



Provides advice to NPHE on matters relating to supply of and access to medicines and medical devices, clinical trials, international initiatives on new therapies and vaccines, and the safety of medicines being used to treat COVID-19.

Access and Supply

Supply of medicines

We work with others to help ensure that the supply of medicines is not affected by COVID-19. Where any potential issues are identified, we work with stakeholders to find solutions that ensure the continued availability of medicines to treat Irish patients.



Access to medical devices

To help healthcare services access essential devices, we have introduced a new procedure for the urgent assessment of devices to diagnose and treat COVID-19 in Ireland.

Regulatory changes

We have adapted elements of the regulatory system to help address challenges in the pharmaceutical and MedTech sectors. This flexibility is focused especially on facilitating supply of crucial medicines and medical devices for COVID-19 patients.



International Cooperation

We are working with our European and international partners to accelerate the delivery of safe and effective treatments for COVID-19.

-  European Medicines Agency
-  European Commission
-  World Health Organisation
-  International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities
-  International Medical Device Regulators

Clinical Trials & Investigations

New accelerated reviews for human health research

This allows researchers and manufacturers to evaluate as quickly as possible which medicines and medical devices are safe and effective to use to combat COVID-19.



Tackling Illegal Products



Proactively monitoring the market for falsified COVID-19 health products including treatments and test kits.

Taking action against websites and advertisements with misleading claims.



HPRA staff members are assisting the HSE with contact tracing and other health sector initiatives.