

HPRA Patient Forum Meeting Record

Tuesday 19th September 2023, Hybrid meeting (HPRA offices & Microsoft Teams)

Chair: Dr. Paula Kilbane

1 Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Members in attendance included Jacqui Browne, Nuala Ryan, Siobhan Freaney, Melody Buckley, John Dowling and Mark Byrne.

2 Declarations of Interest (DoI)

There were no DoI's declared.

3 Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

4 Record of the last meeting

The record of the meeting held on 20 June 2023 was agreed.

It was proposed by a member to list members in attendance in subsequent meeting records. It was agreed that this proposal would be put to all members by email.

5 Matters arising/issues of interest

Members were updated on the establishment of an expert taskforce by the Department of Health, to support the expansion of the role of pharmacy in Ireland. The HPRA was approached to enquire if members would be interested in participating as patient advocates in patient/public consultations with the taskforce. It was noted that this participation was voluntary and independent of the forum and the HPRA and names of those interested would be put forward by the HPRA to the taskforce.

6 Overview of medicine drug development

Presentations were given by the Human Products Authorisation and Registration department on the development and licensing of generic and biosimilar medicines. Members commented that the information was very useful and noted their interest in further information sessions on this topic.

7 Reporting suspected safety issues: launch of guide for patient organisation/advocate websites

Members were updated on the launch of a guide, developed by the forum as a tool for patient organisations to use to raise awareness amongst members. Forum members were thanked for their valuable contributions to the development of the guide. Members were informed that the guide would be available via the HRPAs patient forum webpage, and its launch highlighted through HPRA social media channels. Members agreed to share and highlight the launch of the guide.