

**From the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer**  
**Cathy Harrison**



Department of  
**Health**

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

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**By email:**

**For Action:**

**Chief Executives, HSC Trusts**

*(for onward distribution to relevant staff )*

**Chief Executive, BSO**

**Chief Executive, NIAS**

**Chief Executive, NIBTS**

**For Information:**

**Chief Executive, HSCB**

*(for onward distribution to Community Pharmacists  
and GPs)*

**Chief Executive, PHA**

**Chief Executive, RQIA**

*(for onward distribution to all independent providers/  
independent hospitals)*

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**Dear Colleagues**

**EU EXIT: RETENTION OF STOCKPILES**

I am writing to inform you of the Health Minister's decision to maintain locally held EU exit-related stockpiles of medical devices and clinical consumables (MDCCs) at current levels in light of the novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) outbreak and uncertainties in the global supply chain associated with China.

DHSC has written to all MDCC suppliers across the UK asking them to maintain their remaining EU stockpiles until further notice to mitigate the risks to global supply chains. In Northern Ireland the Business Services Organisation has written to local suppliers along similar lines.

**As a result of the Minister's decision I am asking all HSC organisations to retain existing stockpiles built up for EU Exit until further notice to mitigate the risks associated with Covid-19.** This mirrors action taken across the rest of the UK.

I will continue to keep you updated on developments.

In the meantime if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Bernie Duffy (9052 0787) or David Lennox (9052 0236) to discuss further.

Yours sincerely



**CATHY HARRISON**

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