

**From the Chief Medical Officer
Professor Sir Michael McBride**



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

www.health-ni.gov.uk

HSS(MD)48/2021

FOR ACTION

Chief Executives, Health and Social Care Board/Business Services Organisation/Public Health Agency/HSC Trusts/NIAS (*for onward transmission to relevant staff*)

Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management, HSCB (*for onward distribution to Community Pharmacies*).

Head of General Medical Services, HSCB (*for onward distribution to GP Practices*)

GP Medical Advisers, Health and Social Care Board.

RQIA (*for onward transmission to all independent providers including independent hospitals and travel clinics*)

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Our Ref: HSS(MD)48/2021

Date: 23 July 2021

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FULL CIRCULATION LIST

Dear Colleague

USE OF EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY (EMA) AUTHORISED MEDICINES IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Please see attached a joint letter from the Department of Health NI Medicines Regulatory Group (MRG) and Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) on the use of European Medicines Agency (EMA) authorised medicines in Northern Ireland and an anomaly linked with an amendment to the Human Medicines Regulations 2012 (HMRs).

Prompt action is being taken to amend the legislation and the necessary corrections will come into force on the 3rd August 2021. In the interim we would ask you bring the attached letter to the immediate attention to all relevant health professionals.

Enquiries:

Any enquiries about the content of this letter will be addressed by the MHRA at:

Email: info@mhra.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

**Professor Sir Michael McBride
Chief Medical Officer**

**Mrs Cathy Harrison
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer**

Circulation List (continued)

Director of Public Health/Medical Director, Public Health Agency (*for onward distribution to all relevant health protection staff*)

Medicines Management Pharmacists, HSC Board (*for cascade to prescribing advisers*)

Donncha O'Carolan, HSCB (*for distribution to all General Dental Practitioners*)

Raymond Curran, Head of Ophthalmic Services, HSCB (*for distribution to Community Optometrists*)

FOR INFORMATION

Trevor Patterson, Chief Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society NI.

Andrea Sutcliffe CBE, Chief Executive, Nursing & Midwifery Council

Charlie Massey, Chief Executive, General Medical Council

John Barwick, Chief Executive, Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Ian Brack, Chief Executive, General Dental Council

Lesley Longstone, Chief Executive, General Optical Council

Director of Nursing, Public Health Agency

Directors of Pharmacy HSC Trusts

Regional Medicines Information Service, Belfast HSC Trust

Regional Pharmaceutical Procurement Service, Northern HSC Trust

Professor Donna Fitzsimons, Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery QUB

Professor Sonja McIlpatrick, Head of School of Nursing, University of Ulster

Siobhan Murphy, CEC

Donna Gallagher, Open University

Professor Paul McCarron, Head of School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, UU

Professor Colin McCoy, Head of School, School of Pharmacy, QUB

Professor Colin Adair, Director of the NI Centre for Pharmacy Learning and Development, QUB

Louise McMahan, Director of Integrated Care

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This letter is available on the Department of Health website at
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/professional-medical-and-environmental-health-advice/hssmd-letters-and-urgent-communications>
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