

To:
GPs
OOHs & COVID centres
Community pharmacies
Head of pharmacy Federations (*for
cascade to GP pharmacists*)
Trust Medical Directors (*for cascade to
Palliative Care clinicians*)
Trust Directors of Nursing (*for cascade to
relevant nursing teams including
community*)
Trust Heads of Pharmacy
RQIA (*for cascade to Nursing Homes*)

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1st May 2020

Dear Colleague

URGENT PANDEMIC PACK (FURTHER SUPPLY TO NURSING HOMES IN NORTHERN IRELAND)

HSCB issued previous communication to all GPs and Community Pharmacies (3rd April 2020) concerning Arrangements for the Urgent Pandemic Pack (Nursing Homes with ≥59 beds).

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/Letter%20to%20GPs%20CPs%20RE%20Nursing%20Home%20Packs.pdf>

As the COVID-19 pandemic progresses, HSCB is continuing to balance the need to have immediate access to urgent medication for Nursing Home patients alongside the need to maintain supply to all patients in Northern Ireland, and manage the unprecedented demands on the supply chain.

The purpose of this letter is to advise of a further phased roll out to Nursing Homes who have not yet received an Urgent Pandemic Pack. Distribution will be on a prioritised basis, with the aim of providing the packs to homes as soon as possible after a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 outbreak. RQIA will work closely with HSCB regarding this.

Please note:

- Nursing homes will not require a GP signature as Dr Margaret O'Brien in the HSCB has again provided a signature to fulfil wholesaler requirements
- Nursing Homes prioritised for a pack will be notified directly by RQIA to arrange delivery
- A composite list of Nursing Homes holding packs will be maintained

- The above list and associated guidance , including arrangements for stock replenishment, can be found at

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/3137.htm>

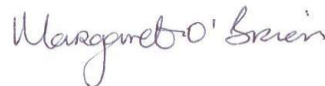
If you require any further information, please contact your local HSCB Pharmacy Adviser.

Thank you for your continued support during these extremely challenging times.

Yours sincerely



Joe Brogan
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines
Management



Dr Margaret O'Brien
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of General Medical Services

CC. Paul Turley HSCB
 Diane Walker Palliative Care in Partnership Macmillan Programme
 Manager
 Dr Alan McPherson NI Hospice
 Canice Ward MRG
 Dermot Parsons RQIA
 Cathy Glover RQIA
 Rodney Morton PHA
 Kathy Fodey PHA
 Loretta Gribben PHA
 Gillian McCorkell PHA
 Palliative Care Pharmacists (Trusts & Marie Curie)
 CPNI
 GPC
 Royal College of Nursing (RCN)
 PSNI