



Circular 023/20

17th August 2020

RE: Electronic Transfer of Prescriptions using the High Tech Hub.

Dear Pharmacist,

Temporary amendments to the Medicinal Products (Prescription and Control of Supply) regulations 2003 and the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2017 (as amended) were made by the Minister for Health in response to the outbreak of COVID-19.

The High Tech Hub has been enhanced to allow for the electronic transfer of prescriptions between doctors and pharmacies and remove the need for a paper equivalent.

To be legally valid the prescription must:

- Be in electronic form,
- Be transmitted using the national electronic prescription transfer system
- Clearly indicate the date of issue,
- Clearly indicate the professional registration number of the prescriber, and
- Be traceable electronically back to the prescriber.

With effect from 18th August 2020, the High Tech Hub is now recognised as part of the national electronic prescription transfer system.

Where your pharmacy is the nominated pharmacy for the eligible patient, your pharmacy team will be able to access the PDF of High Tech (HTH) prescription by selecting the 'My Patients' tab and searching for the relevant patient. Electronic pdfs accessed in this manner will display under the 'E-Script' column.

High Tech prescriptions generated on the hub, from 18th August 2020, are available in pdf format for pharmacies to download for their records. For any HTH prescriptions generated prior to 18th August 2020 pharmacy are required to dispense from a printed and signed prescription.

If you have any queries regarding the above or any aspect of the Hub development process, please contact PCRS.HiTech@hse.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Flanagan
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service