



Circular 009/2022

14 April 2022

Re: Paxlovid™ Order Process

Dear Pharmacist

The use of Paxlovid™ has been authorised to treat COVID-19 (coronavirus) and it will be made available to people who are at the highest risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19.

A bespoke ordering process has been introduced for Paxlovid™ which will be delivered at zero ingredient cost to pharmacies who order the product when they have a prescription. It is not to be ordered for stock purposes alone.

The purpose of this circular is to outline the arrangements for ordering Paxlovid™ when you receive a prescription for a patient attending your pharmacy. The product will be available to order from United Drug DTP@united-drug.com with immediate effect.

1. GP or Hospital Prescriber forward by Healthmail a prescription for a patient who has nominated your pharmacy for a family member or representative to pick up supply.
2. Pharmacy order the product when the GP or Hospital Clinician issues a prescription using the agreed order form (copy attached) by email to DTP@united-drug.com.
3. If the product is ordered by 4pm, it will be delivered before 5pm the next day. There will also be a weekend / Bank holiday delivery service, available by calling UD out of hours on **086 770 0846**. This number should also be used where a prescription arrives after 5pm on a weekday.
4. To facilitate monitoring and stewardship of these novel products in the Irish context, pharmacies are required to forward (by Healthmail) copies of the (i) Order form and (ii) prescription to pharmacy.response@hse.ie. To protect patient confidentiality, a copy of the prescription must not be attached to the order email to UDD.
5. A Patient care fee will be paid for the professional service provided when Dispensing or exercising professional judgement not to dispense this product in respect of which particular care is required in relation to drug – drug interaction profile and renal clearance. Pharmacists are also asked to be mindful that antivirals will not work if not dispensed within 5 days of symptom onset.
6. A reduced dose is required when the patient has moderate renal impairment, in which circumstances, you must be vigilant to remove one PF – 07321332 (pink film-coated tablet) from each dose of treatment – both morning and evening for each of the 5 days of treatment. The discarded tablets should be disposed of in the usual manner in the pharmacy

7. An Administrative code, 89181 has been assigned for the product. The product will be provided to pharmacies at zero ingredient cost.
89181 Paxlovid Film Coated Tabs. 150/100 mg. 30 €0.00
8. The operationalisation and administrative arrangements for Paxlovid™ will be reviewed after a trial period to the end of June 2022.

The HSE is recommending that when GPs seeks support from NMIC that they copy in the patient's nominated pharmacy for this prescription so that the relevant information can be shared.

An IIOB webinar, entitled "Paxlovid™ for the treatment of COVID-19, Place in Therapy, Safety Considerations and Management of Drug Interactions," was delivered on Tuesday 12th April detailing the current guidance, signposting to resources and working through examples of potential patient scenarios. The direct link for the recording is <https://iioop.ie/content/paxlovid-treatment-covid-19-place-therapy-safety-considerations-and-management-drug>

Information for patients and the public is available on the HSE website:
<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/paxlovid/>.

Yours faithfully,



Shaun Flanagan
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement

**COVID-19 THERAPEUTICS TREATMENT
PAXLOVID**

To access this stock (Mon – Fri working hours), complete all fields and email to

DTP@united-drug.com

Orders submitted by 4pm for delivery the next working day. This stock is only available from
United Drug Distributors.

For orders after 5pm or at the weekend/ bank holidays please **PHONE: 086 770 0846**

Date [DD-MM-YYYY]:	
Pharmacy Name :	
Pharmacy Address :	
Contact name :	
Contact phone number :	
Pharmacy Registration Number	
UD Account Number :	
GMS Number :	

	Number of Packs*
PAXLOVID FCT 150/100MG (HSE) 30	

*HSE expects Orders to be aligned to prescriptions received

Pharmacist's Signature	
Professional Registration No	