



Curriculum Vitae

Personal information **Ellen Mc Grath**

Work experience

Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA), Ireland

Medicine Shortages and Borderline Classification Manager (MSBC)

January-2024 to present

- Lead on the direction of the MSBC team for inclusion in the business plans for the Compliance department in the HPRA.
- Implement appropriate performance targets for the MSBC team.
- Managing internal and external stakeholder engagement and coordination of the necessary actions to prevent or mitigate the impact of specific medicine shortages.
- Responsible for the management and optimisation of the current shortages framework at a national and European level.
- The HPRA's representative in the EMA's Working Party relating to shortages.
- The HPRA's representative in European Commission co-funded joint action on medicine shortages as Work Package Lead (WP4) and part of the Project Management Board.
- Chair of the HPRA's multidisciplinary Borderline Product Classification Committee.
- An active participant in the EU Innovation Network's Borderline & Classification Group (EU-IN BLCG).
- Lead the HPRA's Exempt Medicinal Product (EMP) programme, which includes overseeing an update of the IT infrastructure and the provision of key data both within the HPRA and with Health System partners to inform developments at both operational and policy level.

Corporate Pharmaceutical Unit, Health Service Executive (HSE), Ireland

Chief Pharmacist

March 2021 - January 2024

- Lead and manage the Corporate Pharmaceutical Unit.
- Responsible for the design, implementation and monitoring of processes to ensure HSE complied with its responsibilities under the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 in as efficient a manner as possible.
- Manage the National Pricing and Reimbursement Application System for New Medicines.
- Lead negotiations at a national level for new medicines as they are considered for addition to the HSE Reimbursement List or made available in the hospital setting (contract range €1m - €300m).
- Manage the Reference Pricing System under the Health Act 2013 to achieve efficiency targets, which included sustaining continuity of supply of medicines.
- Advise the HSE National Executive Management Team on matters of Pharmaceutical Policy
- Provide Strategic Leadership on issues of Pharmaceutical Policy.
- Effectively manage resources, including staffing, to ensure that the Unit could meet its goals and targets.

Corporate Pharmaceutical Unit, Health Service Executive (HSE), Ireland

Chief II Pharmacist

March 2018 - March 2021

- To summarise relevant information into a slide set presentation to assist the Drugs Group being able to make a recommendation to HSE decision makers (HSE Executive Management Team) on whether a pricing and reimbursement application should be approved.
- To undertake horizon scanning for new drugs and license extensions coming on stream to allow the HSE to forward plan in terms of budget allocations for new pricing and reimbursement applications anticipated for the next financial year.
- To provide the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE), other HSE departments and the Department of Health with pertinent updates from horizon scanning undertaken.
- Preparation of responses to media and assist with providing accurate information to respond to Parliament Queries.

Corporate Pharmaceutical Unit, Health Service Executive (HSE), Ireland

Senior Pharmacist

April 2016 - March 2018

- To assist with processing and analysing new medicinal product applications.

Beacon Hospital, Ireland

Senior Oncology Pharmacist

March 2015 - April 2016

- To act as the responsible pharmacist for the aseptic manufacturing unit, facilitating the compounding service ensuring sterility and stability of the final product.
- Lead and advise the process of developing protocols, policies and guidelines designed to deliver optimal and economical patient care.
- To screen oncology prescriptions including those prescribed on Hi-Tech prescriptions to ensure clinical appropriateness.

Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom

Medicines Optimisation and Lung Specialist Pharmacist (March 2014 – February 2015)

Acting Lung and Sarcoma Specialist Pharmacist (June 2013 – March 2014)

Clinical Chemotherapy Pharmacist (November 2012 – October 2013)

- To act as the lead specialist pharmacist for the lung and sarcoma units. This included reviewing clinical trials, setting up Early Access Schemes, providing clinical and funding advice to consultants, registrars, nurses and other pharmacists.
- Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG) co-ordinator for the Trust.
- To implement QIPP (quality, innovative, productivity and prevention) projects to improve quality of care while making efficiencies savings.
- To actively contribute and lead on various projects from sitting on the medicines management committee, falls committee and the London Cancer Alliance Lung Cancer Steering Group.
- Set up first in kind education and training for the Department including leading 'Learning at Lunch' departmental meetings.

Education and training

2018-2019

MSc Health Policy (Merit)

Imperial College London (United Kingdom)

- 2 year part-time course covering 8 modules, including topics that included health economics, leadership, health systems, financing and innovation.
- Designed literature searches, evaluate the findings and critically appraised literature
- Used the principles of micro-, macro- and behavioural economics to predict and explain the effect of health policy.
- Evaluated the financial sustainability challenges facing developed healthcare systems and assess some of the potential policy solutions.
- Applied different theoretical models of innovation and evaluate the reasons why some innovations succeed while others fail and how health policy makers can support and foster innovation.
- Evaluated the merits and disadvantages of major forms of healthcare provider organisations.
- Evaluated specific proposed improvements in healthcare delivery on the patient safety and quality agenda of healthcare systems and what leadership is required.
- Completed a dissertation examining pricing and reimbursement of medicines in Ireland.

2009-2011

Postgraduate Diploma Pharmacy Practice (Merit)

University of Leeds (United Kingdom)

- A 2 year part-time course which was aimed at developing a full range of skills necessary for advancing a career in hospital, to deliver excellence in person-centred pharmacy care.
- The course was themed around understanding medicines use from the patients' perspective and ensuring medicines use is evidence based and as safe as possible ran throughout the course.
- On successful completion the following skills were garnered: **1)** Critically applying specialist knowledge in order to provide pharmaceutical care to patients with a range of core and specialist conditions, **2)** Demonstrating a pro-active and self-reflective approach to leadership, to achieve high standards of performance and personal development, **3)** Effectively communicating complex information and providing specialised advice within the healthcare environment, **4)** Critically evaluating and managing medicines use, to ensure patient safety and optimise patient care, **5)** Synthesizing strategies and working effectively with others to develop and evaluate new services.

2004-2008

Masters in Pharmacy (MPharm, 1st class honors)

University of East Anglia (United Kingdom)

GPhC accredited Pharmacy degree undertaken to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes required of a modern pharmacist.

Additional information

Publications

Kollár A, Maruzzo M, Messiou C, Cartwright E, Miah A, Martin-Liberal J, Thway K, McGrath E, Dunlop A, Khabra K, Seddon B, Dileo P, Linch M, Judson I, Benson C. Regorafenib treatment for advanced, refractory gastrointestinal stromal tumor: a report of the UK managed access program. *Clin Sarcoma Res.* 2014 Dec 4;4:17. doi: 10.1186/2045-3329-4-17.

Projects

- Contributor to Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) Emerging Risks to the Future Pharmacy Workforce project
- Lead negotiator for the Irish State Framework Agreements for Pricing and Reimbursement – successful in achieving 4-year agreements with the Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association (IPHA) and Medicines for Ireland (MFI) in 2021
- Former member of the Beneluxa Pricing and Reimbursement Domain Taskforce (DTF) – led the first successful joint negotiation pilots, which resulted in reimbursement of two gene therapies being made available in the Netherlands, Ireland and Belgium in 2021 and 2024

Memberships

Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (No. 10158)

Other Relevant Information