



An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health



Common Conditions Service

Catherine Kane

Medicines, Controlled Drugs, and Pharmacy Legislation Unit

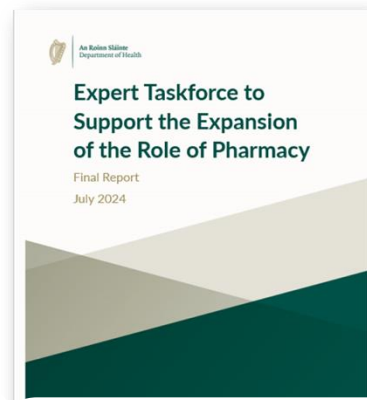
November 6th 2025

Outline



- The Journey So Far
- Expert Taskforce
- Community Pharmacy Expansion Implementation Oversight Group & its subgroups
- Engagement with key stakeholders
- Legislative Reform
- Media Campaign
- What Comes Next

The Journey So Far



2023

- Taskforce established July 2023
- Interim report November 2023

2024

- Final report published August 2024
- IOG established September 2024

2025

- IOG put the key enablers in place to facilitate the establishment of the Common Conditions Service

Work of the Pharmacy Taskforce



- **Phase 1:** Empowering pharmacists to extend prescriptions
 - Recommendations published in November 2023
 - Extension of max validity period from 6 to 12 months in March 2024
- **Phase 2:** Empowering dependent pharmacist prescribing
 - Recommendations published in August 2024
 - Extension to common conditions prescribing ongoing
- **Phase 3:** Empowering independent pharmacist prescribing
 - Extension to models of independent pharmacist prescribing across primary and secondary care



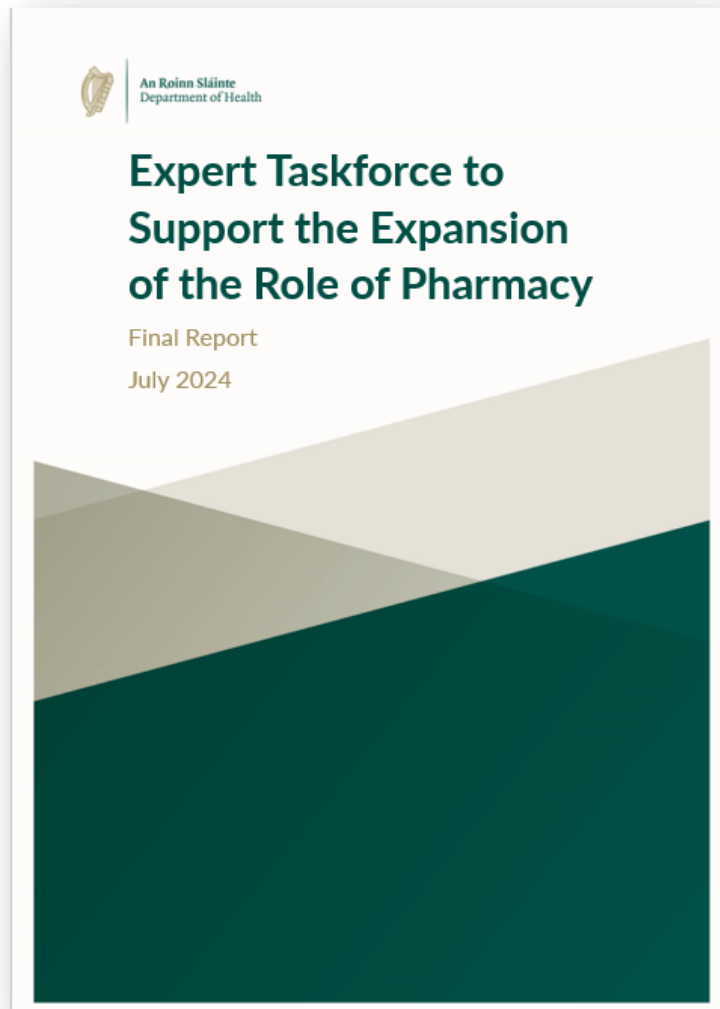
Expert Taskforce to Support the
Expansion of the Role of Pharmacy
Interim Report - November 2023



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**Expert Taskforce to
Support the Expansion
of the Role of Pharmacy**
Final Report
July 2024

Taskforce Recommendations



Overarching
Recommendations



Patient and Public
Involvement



Regulatory
Framework and
Legislative
Amendments



Leadership and
Governance



Education and
Training



Operational and
Infrastructure
Resourcing
Requirements

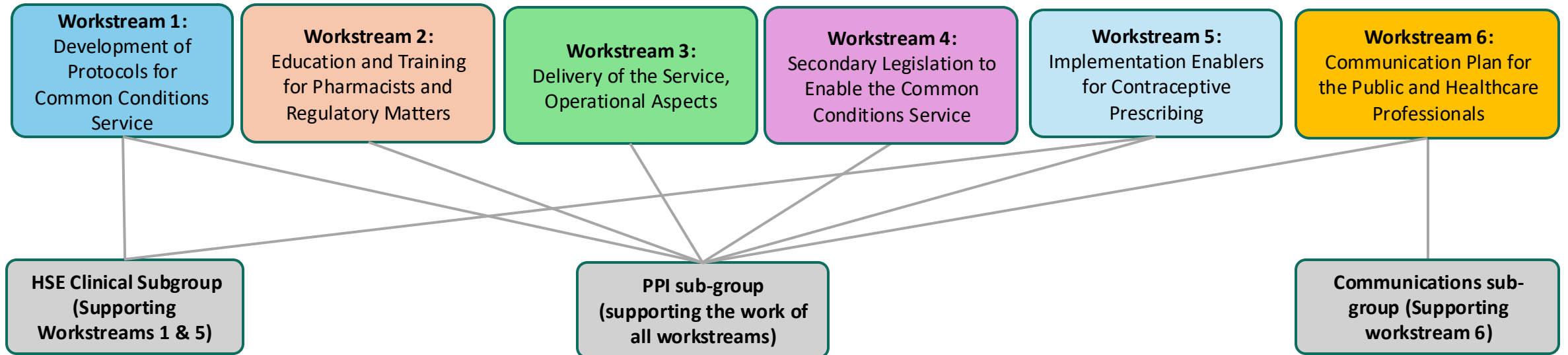


Communication and
Engagement



Research and
Review

Implementation Oversight Group (IOG)



Engagement with key stakeholders



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Legislative Reform

Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2024

(Act 23 of 2024)
Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2024 (Bill 5 of 2024)

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An Act to amend the Health Act 1970, the Irish Medicines Board Act 1995, the Pharmacy Act 2007, the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 and the Patient Safety (Notifiable Incidents and Open Disclosure) Act 2023; and to provide for related matters.

Last updated: 15 Jul 2024

Sponsored by: Minister for Health;
Source: Government;
Originating House: Dáil Éireann

History of this Act

The Bill has been signed into law by the President.

15 Jul 2024

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 502 of 2025

MEDICINAL PRODUCTS (PRESCRIPTION AND CONTROL OF SUPPLY) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) REGULATIONS 2025

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 503 of 2025

REGULATION OF RETAIL PHARMACY BUSINESSES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2025

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 504 of 2025

MEDICINAL PRODUCTS (CONTROL OF PLACING ON THE MARKET) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2025

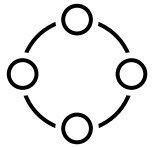
Workstream 4:
Secondary Legislation to
Enable the Common
Conditions Service

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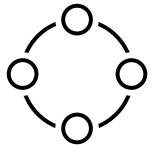
Media Campaign



IIOP to hold webinar on November 6th



Press Release to issue from DoH mid-November



Public Awareness Campaign go-live in early 2026

What comes next for the IOG



Workstream 2:
Education and Training for
Pharmacists and
Regulatory Matters

Publication of the education and training

Workstream 3:
Delivery of the Service,
Operational Aspects

Publication of operational guidance & FAQs following
feedback received today

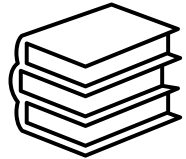
Workstream 5:
Implementation Enablers
for Contraceptive
Prescribing

Development of key enablers for contraceptive prescribing
by pharmacists

Workstream 6:
Communication Plan for
the Public and Healthcare
Professionals

Publication of press release (November) & public awareness
campaign (2026)

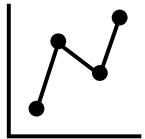
What comes next for pharmacists



Participate in the training when available



Consider and respond to the HSE circular once published



Consider volunteering to become a data champion



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Many thanks!

Please get in touch with us at pharmacyexpansion@health.gov.ie