

**From the Chief Medical Officer  
Professor Sir Michael McBride**



Department of  
**Health**

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

[www.health-ni.gov.uk](http://www.health-ni.gov.uk)

**HSS(MD) 55/2023 (ADDENDUM)**

**BY EMAIL**

Chief Executives, Public Health Agency/SPPG/HSC Trusts/  
NIAS  
GP Medical Advisers, All General Practitioners and GP Locums  
(for onward distribution to practice staff) and Community  
Pharmacists.  
OOHs Medical Managers (for onward distribution to staff)  
RQIA (for onward circulation to independent sector  
health and social care providers).

Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
BELFAST  
BT4 3SQ

Tel: 028 9052 0563

Email: [Michael.McBride@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:Michael.McBride@health-ni.gov.uk)

Our Ref: HSS(MD) 55/2023  
(Addendum)

Date: 13 February 2024

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FULL CIRCULATION LIST**

Dear Colleague

**ADDENDUM TO HSS (MD) 55/2023**

**MHRA DRUG SAFETY UPDATE- ISOTRETINOIN (ROACCUTANE▼):  
INTRODUCTION OF NEW SAFETY MEASURES, INCLUDING ADDITIONAL  
OVERSIGHT OF THE INITIATION OF TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS UNDER  
18 YEARS OF AGE**

This is an addendum to the 'MHRA Drug Safety Update- Isotretinoin  
(Roaccutane ▼): introduction of new safety measures, including additional oversight  
of the initiation of treatment for patients under 18 years of age' [HSS \(MD\) 55/2023](#)  
letter issued on 9 November 2023.

MHRA colleagues have advised of an [addendum](#) to the Report of The Commission  
on Human Medicines Isotretinoin Implementation Advisory Expert Working Group,  
regarding Band 7 Nurse prescribers initiating isotretinoin, published on 8 February  
2024.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Michael McBride.

**Prof Sir Michael McBride**  
Chief Medical Officer

Handwritten signature of Cathy Harrison.

**Prof Cathy Harrison**  
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

