

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



HSS(MD)36/2025

FOR ACTION

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OOHs Medical Managers (for onward distribution to staff)
RQIA (for onward transmission to all independent providers including independent hospitals)

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PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FULL CIRCULATION LIST

Dear Colleague

MHRA DRUG SAFETY UPDATE: Isotretinoin – updates to prescribing guidance and survey of services

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued the below Drug Safety Update.

Healthcare Professionals are asked to note and action the advice for healthcare professionals and recommendations contained within the Drug Safety Update.

Please find the link to the complete **MHRA Drug Safety Update** included below:

[Isotretinoin – updates to prescribing guidance and survey of services](#)

The Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) has endorsed changes to isotretinoin prescribing guidance. In addition, CHM is seeking further information from dermatology services who prescribe isotretinoin to inform any future changes to current risk minimisation measures.

Reporting advice

Healthcare professionals, patients, and caregivers are asked to submit reports using the Yellow Card scheme electronically using:

- the [Yellow Card website](#).
- the Yellow Card app; download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#)

- some clinical IT systems for healthcare professionals

When reporting suspected adverse drug reactions, please provide as much information as possible, including information about medical history, any concomitant medication, onset timing, and treatment dates.

For queries or more information, please contact info@mhra.gov.uk.

You can subscribe to the MHRA new Safety Roundup bulletin [here](#). The latest MHRA Safety Roundup is available at the following link: [MHRA Safety Roundup](#).

Yours sincerely



PROFESSOR SIR MICHAEL MCBRIDE
Chief Medical Officer



PROFESSOR CATHY HARRISON
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

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This letter is available on the Department of Health website at
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/professional-medical-and-environmental-health-advice/hssmd-letters-and-urgent-communications>