



medicines
for ireland

Reductions in the cost of medicines

September 2020

A report prepared by Medicines for Ireland

As the supplier of the majority of medicines in Ireland to both the HSE and to patients directly, Medicines for Ireland members are a critical and central stakeholder in the Irish health service.

Working with Government, patients and health professionals, Medicines for Ireland can help deliver further sustainable value for the medicines budget whilst increasing patient access to everyday medicines, from cardiac care to cancer and everything in between. Circulatory diseases and cancer remain the two leading causes of death in Ireland and it has been shown that increased access to medicines and treatment in these areas are leading to better patient outcomes in Ireland.

Since 2013, the use of generic medicines and biosimilars have provided savings of **€1.6 billion** to the Irish state. There is further potential to save much more and the members of Medicines for Ireland will continue to work with Government on behalf of patients and their families to ensure a sustained supply for patients in Ireland.

The recommendations contained in the Medicines for Ireland report *Ireland's Patients First 2020-2022*, if implemented, have the potential to **save the state €1 billion over the next five years**. These projections are on the conservative end of the spectrum and further savings are achievable if there are higher targets set for uptake in generics and biosimilar medicines.

To put this in context, the HSE currently spends **€2.3 billion** on medicines per annum nationally. Increased expenditure from the Covid-19 pandemic has placed even greater pressure on the resources of the HSE, therefore measures to help reduce the cost of medicines and increase access to medicines for patients, need to be prioritised.



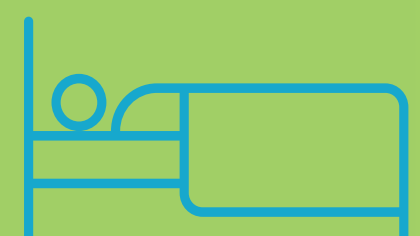
Medicines for Ireland recommendations can save the state €1 billion over the next five years

Additional annual savings of €200 million =

6000 additional nurses



3500 extra nursing home places



or

Our Members



Clonmel Healthcare is a subsidiary Company of STADA Arzneimittel AG



Fannin Ltd is a subsidiary company of DCC Vital



Pinewood Healthcare is a subsidiary company of Wockhardt Ltd



Rowa is a subsidiary company of Rowex Pharmaceuticals



Ireland's Patients First

2020-2022

Medicines for Ireland Report – Ireland's Patients First 2020-2022

A full copy of the report is available on our website: www.medicinesforireland.ie

