

## Market Round-up

Week Ending: 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

### General Market News

- **GSK** and **Vir Biotechnology** have expanded their existing COVID-19 collaboration to include a new research and development agreement, focused on therapies for **influenza** and other **respiratory viruses**.  
[LINK](#)
- **Novo Nordisk's** glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonist **Semaglutide** significantly cut body weight in a large-scale trial of adults who are overweight or obese.  
[LINK](#)
- Congratulations to **Shane Ryan** & his team in **Takeda Ireland** who have announced a **€36 million investment** in its Grange Castle facility. The investment will support the expansion of the company's cell therapy production facility and create approximately 100 new jobs over the next three years.  
[LINK](#)

### Drug Approvals/Filings:

- **AstraZeneca** and **Daiichi Sankyo's** antibody drug conjugate **Enhertu** has scored a conditional marketing authorisation in the UK for certain breast cancer patients.  
[LINK](#)
- The EC has approved **Celltrion Healthcare's** **Yuflyma**, a biosimilar to adalimumab – marketed by **AbbVie** as **Humira**.  
[LINK](#)
- EC has approved a marketing authorisation for **Seagen International's** HER2 tyrosine kinase inhibitor **Tukysa** for the treatment of HER2-positive locally-advanced or metastatic breast cancer  
[LINK](#)
- **Novartis'** heart failure med **Entresto** receives an expanded approval in the US  
[LINK](#)

### Covid19

- The single-dose **Johnson & Johnson** Covid-19 vaccine should be available in Ireland by April and has already been heralded as a game-changer in the plan to vaccinate the entire population.  
[LINK](#)
- **LifeArc**, a medical research charity, has announced it will provide £5m in funding to support the **GenOMICC COVID-19 study**, which is aiming to understand the role of genetic risk factors in patient responses to COVID-19.  
[LINK](#)
- **EU** buys up to 300 million extra Covid-19 vaccine doses from **Moderna**  
[LINK](#)

- **Novavax** provides 1.1 billion COVID shots to **global** vaccine drive  
[LINK](#)
- Research from Israel shows a **94% drop** in symptomatic Covid-19 cases in people who have received two doses of the **Pfizer/BioNTech SE** vaccine.  
[LINK](#)

### **NCPE Drug Updates:**

- The NCPE recommends that **Ocon Medical's IUB™ Ballerine®** SCU300B indicated for intrauterine contraception for up to five years not be considered for reimbursement at the submitted price  
[LINK](#)
- The NCPE recommends that **Janssen's Guselkumab (Tremfya®)** for the treatment of active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients not be considered for reimbursement at the submitted price  
[LINK](#)
- A full HTA is recommended to assess **Novo Nordisk's oral Semaglutide (Rybelsus®)** for the treatment of adults with insufficiently controlled type 2 diabetes.  
[LINK](#)
- A full HTA is recommended for **Roche's Polatuzumab Vedotin (Polivy®)** for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma.  
[LINK](#)
- The NCPE recommends that **Dova Pharma's Avatrombopag (Doptelet®)** for the treatment of primary chronic immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) not be considered for reimbursement at the submitted price.  
[LINK](#)