



NEWSLETTER No.10

JULY 2024

Hello in July!

We present the latest LZVO Newsletter, featuring the latest news in the Latvian pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical care sectors from Dace Ķikute, Chairwoman of the Pharmacists' Society of Latvia. Colleagues from the Finnish verification organization FiMVO share their experience in changing their system supplier - a unique event in the entire European verification system. Meanwhile, all LZVS end-users must be prepared for the discontinuation of interface version v4 this fall, so LZVO reminds everyone to transition to the latest interface version in time.

Have a sunny summer!

Inese Erdmane, Chairwoman of the Board at the LZVO

FiMVO changed system supplier successfully – a first it's kind

Maija Gohlke, FiMVO General Manager

In the end of 2023, the Finnish Medicines Verification Organisation FiMVO changed the supplier of the medicines verification system (FiMVS). The supplier changed from Arvato to Solidsoft Reply's (SSR). This change was the first of its kind within the EMVS (European Medicines Verification System) ecosystem. It marked a pivotal moment in FiMVO's mission to ensure the integrity and safety of the pharmaceutical supply chain in Finland.

More https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/fimvo_changed_system_supplier_successfully



FiMVO team: From left first row Henna Rönkkö, Assistant, Maija Gohlke, General Manager, Taina Tummavuori, Finance and Administration Manager, second row Stanley Eklund, Customer Service Manager, Mirka Koski, IT Manager, Janika Perttala, Project Coordinator, Teijo Yrjönen, QA Manager

LFB: Updates from the Pharmacist's Society of Latvia

Dace Ķikute, Chairwoman of the Pharmacists' Society of Latvia



The Pharmacist's Society of Latvia (LFB) was founded in 1994 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. LFB represents the professional, economic, and legal interests of pharmacists and pharmacist assistants, with over 1000 members. We collaborate with state institutions and other public organizations in the pharmaceutical sector.

One of LFB's most important tasks is to "keep a finger on the pulse" and lobby for pharmacists' interests when changes are introduced in pharmaceutical care processes due to regulatory changes. Since 2018, we can mention several examples.

Currently, we are actively evaluating and discussing the drug pricing reform proposed by the current Minister of Health. We are concerned about the impact of the proposed pricing model on pharmacy competition, which may weaken the positions of individual pharmacies. Pharmacists working in individual pharmacies in the regions provide daily pharmacy services and advice close to residents' homes.

More: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/lfb-updates-from-the-pharmacists-society-of-latvia>

Performance indicators of the LZVS

In the first quarter of 2024, a total of 29 million transactions were carried out in the Latvian Medicines Verification System (LZVS), which is a 16% increase compared to the same period in 2023. After the final verification, slightly more than 7.4 million medicine packages were supplied to citizens in Latvia, marking a 4% increase from the first quarter of 2023.

As of June 30, 1192 end-users, including pharmacies, hospital pharmacies, wholesalers, and medical institutions, connected to the verification system. The number of end-users of the LZVS has stabilized over the past year. On average, 5 new user accounts are created each month, and 6 accounts are closed for end-users who do not have a valid medicine purchase permit or pharmaceutical activity license.

More: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/performance-indicators-first-two-quarters>

LZVO strongly suggests switching to the latest interface version v5

LZVO strongly suggests that end users switch to the latest interface version v5 as soon as possible. It will be the only option to connect to the system with the next upcoming release in autumn 2024.

More: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/lzvs-was-updated-new-release-40-may-21>

New version of the EC Questions & Answers document is published

The European Commission has published a new version of the Questions & Answers (Q&A) document on “Safety Features for Medicinal Products for Human Use (V.21)”. The new version contains updated responses to Questions 1.1., 1.20., 1.21., and 2.21. - about safety features, replacing of safety features and using stickers to place the unique identifier.

More <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/new-version-ec-questions-answers-document-published>

Batch recall, product withdrawal, or stolen packages must be marked as decommissioned in the EMVS

In the event of a recall of a batch, withdrawal of a product from the market or a case of stolen packages, the marketing authorisation holder (MAH) should perform appropriate decommissioning transactions in the EMVS system for the affected markets.

More <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/batch-recall-product-withdrawal-or-stolen-packages-must-be-marked-decommissioned-emvs>

The Chairwoman of the Board of LZVO has been re-elected as an Observer within EMVO's Board

On May 23, at the European Medicines Verification Organisation's (EMVO) General Assembly meeting, the NMVO Observers within EMVO's Board for 2024 from the National Medicines Verification Organizations (NMVOs) were approved. Latvian Medicines Verification Organisation (LZVO) and its Chairwoman of the Board Inese Erdmane were re-elected as observers for the second consecutive year, representing the small countries group.

More <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/the-chairwoman-of-the-board-of-lzvo-has-been-reelected-as-an-observer-within-emvo-board>

Where can you follow LZVO news?

We invite you to follow the news of LZVO and be informed about current events in the world of medicines verification:

- LZVO website <https://lzvo.lv/en>
- LZVO LinkedIn account <https://www.linkedin.com/company/latvian-medicines-verification-organisation-lzvo>

If you are not a recipient of the LZVO Newsletter, but would like to receive it in your e-mail, please apply using our website <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates>.

Send feedback or suggestions about the LZVO Newsletter to info@lzvo.lv.

