



Hello!

In this newsletter, we look back at the celebration of the fourth anniversary of the European Medicines Verification System and review some milestones of the 1st quarter of 2023.

On 9 February, the European Medicines Verification System (EMVS) celebrated their 4-year anniversary with a reception at the Royal Library of Belgium. The President of the European Medicines Verification Organisation (EMVO), Kasper Ernest, emphasized that the introduction of the EMVS and the launch of the process was an important turning point, considering the scale of the system and the need for interoperability of 29 national systems. Although the system encountered some challenges in the first years, the overall development has been smooth thanks to the National Medicines Verification Organisations and EMVO experts and staff.

I also want to say a special thank you to every end-user of the Latvian Medicines Verification System, the competent state authorities, and cooperation partners, as well as to the Board of the Latvian Medicines Verification Organisation, stakeholders, and my colleagues – Andra Pučko, Rihards Plivčs, Rita Liepiņa and Solveiga Tabora. These four years clearly show the importance of persistent, goal-oriented work, in which every member of the system should be involved, be it the end-user, manufacturer or the supplier of the IT system. Thank you all for that!

Thank you again for the cooperation, and may it continue to be as successful as it has been so far!

*Inese Erdmane,
Chairwoman of the Board at the Latvian Medicines Verification Organisation (LZVO)*



The Latvian Medicines Verification System has been successfully protecting patients from falsified medicine for 4 years

On February 9, it has been 4 years since the authenticity of medicinal products has been verified in the medicines verification system operating in all of Europe, including Latvia, where it is provided by the Latvian Medicines Verification System (LZVS). This system cares about the health and lives of patients by preventing falsified prescription medicines and omeprazole from reaching patients through the legal supply chain. More than 300 million packs of medicinal products have been verified in the system during its entire operation.

Read more about LZVS activities during these four years here: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/latvian-medicines-verification-system-has-been-successfully-protecting-patients-falsified-medicine-4-years>

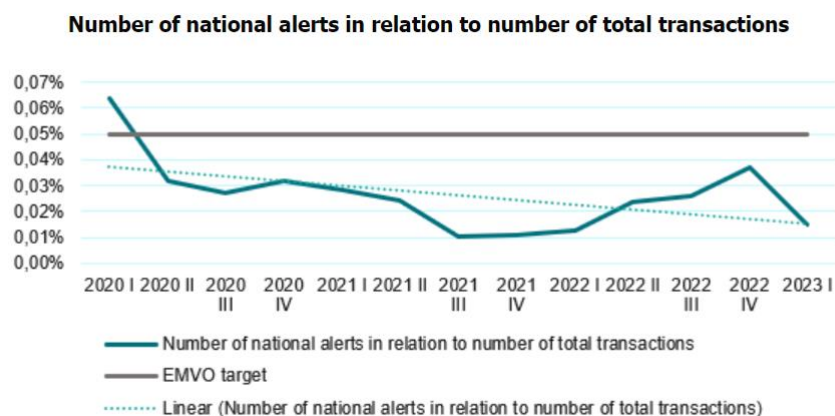
Performance indicators of verification system in Latvia

In the 1st quarter of 2023, 27 million transactions have been performed in LZVS, of which 7.2 million packages were decommissioned and supplied to the patients. The number of packages decommissioned and supplied to patients in this period is slightly higher than in the corresponding period of 2022. The number of verified and decommissioned packages in Latvia is gradually increasing every year since the verification system was launched.

As of 31 March 2023, 1 208 active end-users had joined LZVS – pharmacies, hospitals, wholesalers, and healthcare institutions.

Thanks to the efforts of all participants in the Latvian system, the number of alerts has significantly decreased over time in Latvia. In the 1st quarter of 2023, the share of alerts in the number of transactions fell down and reached the mark of 0.01%. This indicator shows a stable operation of the LZVS, and it is significantly lower than the average indicator of the member states of the system – 0.19%. Latvian end-users on average receive alerts once in a three days, thus end-users, manufacturers, state institutions and LZVO are able to track and analyze these notifications.

Read more about the performance of the verification system and alerts in the 1st quarter of 2023 here: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/performance-indicators-latvian-medicines-verification-system-1st-quarter-2023>



Informs manufacturers about the actualities of the verification system

On February 22, the Latvian Medicines Verification Organisation (LZVO) held a free seminar for manufacturers of medicines or marketing authorization holders (MAH) on the current developments related to the medicines verification system in Latvia and a look back on what was done in 2022.

At the seminar, MAH representatives had the opportunity to get acquainted with LZVO's achievements in 2022, LZVO's international experience working together with representatives of other national medicines verification

organizations and within Arvato working groups, as well as to obtain information about the operations of the medicines verification system in Latvia over a four-year period. Also, the operational priorities of LZVO in 2023 were presented in the seminar, e.g., the introduction of the national AMS (Alert Management System) in Latvia.

General Assembly discussed the most pressing issues related to the verification system

On March 23, 2023, a General Assembly of the Latvian Medicines Verification Organisation (LZVO) was held, where the report on the most significant work done in 2022 was presented, as well as the most pressing issues related to the verification system were discussed. While discussing the actualities of future performance, the General Assembly paid the most attention to the need to review existing security processes and the procedures for implementing business continuity.

Read more about the topics discussed at the General Assembly meeting here: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/general-assembly-discussed-most-pressing-issues-related-verification-system>

LZVO hosts Quality and IT Operations Managers of 16 NMVOs and representatives of Arvato Systems GmbH

On April 20 and 21 of this year, the Latvian Medicines Verification Organisation (LZVO) in cooperation with Arvato Systems GmbH in Riga organized two-day working group seminars for Quality and IT Operations Managers of National Medicines Verification Organisations (NMVOs) to evaluate the achieved results and plan the further development of the medicines verification system.

Read more about what was discussed in the seminars here: <https://lzvo.lv/en/aktualitates/lzvo-hosts-quality-and-it-operations-managers-nmvos-and-representatives-arvato-systems-gmbh>

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>
- LZVO end-user portal <https://lzvo.lv/lv/login>
- LZVO portal for MAHs <https://lzvo.lv/lv/login>

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