

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil Plás J5 Lárionad Gnó na Páirce Thuaidh Bealach Amach 5, M50 An Bóthar Thuaidh Fionnghlas Baile Átha Cliath 11 D11 PXT0 Health Service Executive
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Dear Doctor,

The HSE has received correspondence from the Office of the Ombudsman, on foot of a number of complaints in which the complainants indicated that they were unaware of the existence and consequently the benefits of being registered on the Long Term Illness (LTI) Scheme.

The Ombudsman has asked that the HSE engage the support of Primary Care Contractors and other health care professionals in an effort to ensure that all patients who have a diagnosis of any of the medical conditions listed below are informed that they should register on the LTI scheme.

Being registered on the LTI scheme enables patients to obtain approved prescribed medicines, free of charge, for the treatment of their specified long term illness or disability. Your assistance in making patients aware of the benefits of the LTI scheme is critical in raising their awareness of this entitlement.

Patients with any of the following medical conditions should register on the LTI scheme:

- Acute Leukaemia
- Intellectual Disability*
- Cerebral Palsy
- Mental Illness (in a person under 16)
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Diabetes Insipidus
- Muscular Dystrophies
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Parkinsonism
- Epilepsy
- Phenylketonuria
- Haemophilia
- Spina Bifida
- Hydrocephalus
- Conditions arising from the use of Thalidomide

Detailed information, including an application form and contact details for local health offices where patients can register on the LTI scheme are available at: www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/1/schemes/lti/.

The HSE is developing new printed information materials on the LTI scheme, which will be available shortly. It would be very helpful if the new materials, once available, are displayed and available in your practice.

Thank you for your co-operation and assistance on this matter, which is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Marie Hoey

Assistant National Director

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Primary Care Reimbursement and Eligibility

*Note: Described as Mental Handicap in legislation