



Kathleen Funchion, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

2nd January 2020, 2019

PQ: 52554/19

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to provide soluble paracetamol to medical card patients - Kathleen Funchion.

Dear Deputy Funchion,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 52554/19), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Products such as paracetamol that are licensed in Ireland undergo a pricing and reimbursement approval process on receipt of an application by the HSE from the manufacturer. Under the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013, a product must satisfy the criteria in Schedule 3 (Criteria Applicable to Items and Listed Items for Purposes of Executive Making Relevant Decision under Section 18) for addition to the GMS Reimbursement List. Products available OTC (over the counter) and advertised to the public do not satisfy the criteria in Schedule 3.

Where supply of an item not on the Reimbursement List is necessary for clinical reasons and there is no listed item which is a suitable alternative, arrangements may be made on an individual patient basis in exceptional circumstances under Section 23 of the Act.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Kieran Healy', written over a horizontal line.

Kieran Healy
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service