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Stephen Donnelly, T.D. Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

9th October, 2019

PQ: 39347/19

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to withdraw funding for the medication simponi used in the treatment of ulcerative colitis under the drugs payment scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Stephen Donnelly

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 39347/19), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Simponi (golimumab) is available through High Tech arrangements for the treatment of moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis and for the treatment of moderately to severely active Ulcerative Colitis in patients who have failed or are intolerant to conventional treatments.

Licensed dosages of Simponi (golimumab) can be dispensed on foot of a valid High Tech Medication Prescription Form by the patient's nominated pharmacy under GMS and Community Drug Schemes

Yours sincerely,

Kieran J.

Kieran Healy Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service