



Gino Kenny, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

8th October, 2019

PQ: 38366/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of prescriptions issued to medical card holders for benzodiazepines in each of the years 2009 to 2018 and to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Gino Kenny

Dear Deputy Kenny,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 38366/19), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

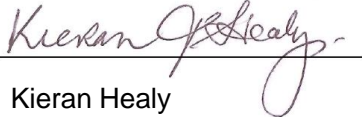
The following table outlines the number of prescriptions issued in each of the years 2009 to 2008 and to date in 2019.

ATC	Drug Name	No. of Prescriptions
N03AE01	Clonazepam	35,757
N05BA01	Diazepam	172,087
N05BA02	Chlordiazepoxide	11,206
N05BA05	Potassium Clorazepate	88
N05BA06	Lorazepam	17,970
N05BA08	Bromazepam	34,312
N05BA09	Clobazam	5,991
N05BA11	Prazepam	6,037
N05BA12	Alprazolam	162,069
N05CD01	Flurazepam	43,116
N05CD02	Nitrazepam	6,332
N05CD05	Triazolam	30,998
N05CD06	Lormetazepam	13,163
N05CD07	Temazepam	33,319
N05CD08	Midazolam	10,832
N05CF01	Zopiclone	242,073
N05CF02	Zolpidem	192,209
Grand Total		1,017,559

Note:

The information provided is based on claim data which has been received by the Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) from Community Pharmacists and includes items reimbursed by PCRS only.

Yours sincerely,

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

Kieran Healy
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service