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Aindrias Moynihan, T.D. Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

5th August, 2020

PQ: 17465 /20

To ask the Minister for Health if access under the long term illness scheme will be expanded to include all persons with type 1 diabetes on that scheme for a monitoring system and associated devices (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Aindrias Moynihan

Dear Deputy Moynihan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 17465/20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In line with the recommendations of the Health Technology Assessment Group, the FreeStyle Libre sensors were made available on an individualised basis to children and young adults (4-21 years) with type I diabetes in the initial phase.

Whilst it was anticipated that the review of FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring System would be finalised at the end of Q1 2020, the public health emergency that has occurred in the meantime has resulted in members of the Health Technology Assessment Group (HTAG), whose primary roles are in Public Health Medicine, being redirected fully to public health emergency duties.

Given the current situation, the HSE are not in a position to provide an exact date for completion of the HTAG review and publication of the advice note. The HSE needs to consider this information before a decision regarding further funding / reimbursement of FreeStyle Libre sensors is made. It is a matter for the Endocrinology Clinics whether they register an application and outline any exceptional circumstances that may apply if all of the listed criteria are not satisfied.

Yours sincerely,

Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service