



Paul Murphy, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

17th September, 2020

PQ: 21645/20

To ask the Minister for Health if melatonin will be added to the list of medicines covered by the medical card - Paul Murphy.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 21645/20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Melatonin (Circadin) underwent a pharmacoeconomic assessment in 2008 by the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE) and was not recommended due to insufficient evidence to support the reimbursement of the product under the Community Drugs Schemes.

The HSE as part of the uniform administration of Discretionary Hardship Arrangements outlines that Melatonin can be approved at local level when prescribed by a specialist in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

Exceptional arrangements are considered under Section 23 of the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013. An individual reimbursement form is required to be completed and submitted by the hospital consultant. Sufficient clinical information, including therapies trialed should be submitted as part of the application to enable a positive recommendation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kieran Healy'.

Kieran Healy
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service