



Noel Grealish, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021

PQ: 5919/21

**To ask the Minister for Health the date for the finalisation of the HSE review of the FreeStyle Libre flash glucose monitoring system in view of the prevailing public health situation and HSE advice that if diabetes patients become infected with Covid-19 they are more at risk of serious complications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Noel Grealish.**

Dear Deputy Grealish,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 5919/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Whilst it was anticipated that the review of FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring System (FGM) 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. Therefore, the review that was planned to be completed by HTAG last year did not take place.

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.

Consultant Endocrinologists or members of their teams e.g. Diabetes Nurse Specialists may apply to the HSE, on behalf of specific patients, for reimbursement support of FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) sensors through the online portal. The application process does cater for the clinician to make an application in very exceptional circumstances for a type 1 diabetic patient outside of the children and young adults (4-21 years) group.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Doyle'.

Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service