



Darren O'Rourke, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

3rd March, 2021

PQ: 7893/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons with type 1 diabetes who have been approved to use either the dexcom or FreestyleLibre continuous glucose monitors under the long-term illness scheme; if CGMs will be rolled out to all type 1 diabetics; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Darren O'Rourke

Dear Deputy O'Rourke,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 7893/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring (**FGM**) sensors were made available on an administrative basis to people with Type 1 Diabetes in line with a recommendation accepted by the HSE from the Health Technology Advisory Group from 1st April 2018. Consultant Endocrinologists may apply to the HSE, on behalf of specific patients, for reimbursement support of FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) sensors. The application process is undertaken by means of a dedicated online portal, which has been operational since 3rd April 2018. In line with the recommendations outlined of the Health Technology Assessment Group, access to this product was made available to children and young adults (4 -21 years). However, the application process does cater for the Consultant to make an application in very exceptional circumstances for a type 1 diabetic patient outside of this group.

The total number of approved applications for FreeStyle Libre FGM sensors through the online system is 4,337.

Continuous Glucose Monitoring (**CGM**) devices go through a completely separate funding mechanism locally, not through PCRS. There is a National Tender in place through Aids and Appliances for CGM devices and the hospital must apply for funding for those patients where CGM is warranted. On the basis of this, PCRS cover the ancillary sensor device which is a consumable product to those who are in receipt of CGMs. PCRS do not reimburse equipment.

The total number of patients in receipt of Dexcom CGM sensors through Community Drug Schemes in 2020 was 3,030

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suzanne Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service