



Cian O'Callaghan, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2021

PQ: 12835/21

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons registered on the national PrEP programme; the number that are currently using PrEP; the number of prescriptions for PrEP written in the past three months to persons registered on the programme; the number of prescriptions for PrEP written in the past six months to persons registered on the programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Cian O'Callaghan.**

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 12835/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) was approved for reimbursement to clinically approved persons from November 2019. I refer to the attached pharmacy circulars in this regard.

As of March 2021, there have been 2,853 persons registered and clinically approved for reimbursement support since implementation on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019. In February 2021, pharmacy reported reimbursement claims were submitted for 638 individual patients.

Reimbursement claims are submitted by contractor community pharmacies for approved patients who present to the pharmacy and are dispensed PrEP free of charge. Therefore, PCRS can only provide information regarding the claims submitted for reimbursement support. The number of prescriptions written by prescribers in the clinical services is not available to PCRS. Reimbursement claims for Q3 of 2020 were presented for 567 individual PrEP users. Reimbursement claims for Q4 2020 were presented for 690 individual PrEP users.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service