

BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Patrick Costello

Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Email:

06/04/2021

PQ 13312-21: To ask the Minister for Health if the number of women of childbearing potential in Ireland currently taking the drug sodium valproate is known; if there has been a reduction in the number since the restrictions placed on the licensing of the drug in 2018; the number of patients that are engaged with the prevent pregnancy prevention programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -

Dear Deputy Costello,

Thank you for your query.

The table below outlines a decreasing number of female patients aged 16 – 44 who have received reimbursement support through the Primary Care Reimbursement Service in the years 2016 – 2020, specific to Sodium Valproate.

Patients Receiving Reimbursement Support for Sodium Valproate	
Year	Female Patients Aged 16- 44
2020	1,691
2019	1,801
2018	1,909
2017	1,909
2016	2,142

Source: HSE PCRS Database.

In the absence of a national disease repository, complete national data is unavailable. Although yet to be validated, partial data has recently been generated from three locations and a project proposal to advance this further at a national level is underway.

I hope this provides you with assistance.

Yours faithfully



Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the CCO

