



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

14th April, 2021

PQ: 16613/21

To ask the Minister for Health the costs per unit of continuous glucose monitoring sensors which are available under the long-term illness scheme; the efforts he has taken to explore other more cost-efficient products; 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 16613/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) devices go through the HSE National Insulin Pump tender process and are provided locally via Aids and Appliances. There is a separate approval process for CGM devices at local level that includes the associated equipment such as a transmitter. The ancillaries/ consumable products (sensors) associated with CGMs are available through the GMS Reimbursement List and are applied for by the company through the non-drug reimbursement application process to PCRS. In order to have a CGM added to the HSE National Tender, an application for the ancillary products also needs to be made concurrently to PCRS - it is a two-step process.

Applications for addition to the GMS Reimbursement List are in line with the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013. The HSE must consider the following criteria prior to making any decision on funding / reimbursement:

- (1) The health needs of the public,
- (2) The cost effectiveness of meeting health needs by supplying the item concerned rather than providing other health services,
- (3) The availability and suitability of items for supply or reimbursement,
- (4) The proposed costs, benefits, and risks of the item or listed item relative to therapeutically similar items or listed items provided in other health service settings

and the level of certainty in relation to the evidence of those costs, benefits and risks,

(5) The potential or actual budget impact of the item or listed item,

(6) The clinical need for the item or listed item,

(7) The appropriate level of clinical supervision required in relation to the item to ensure patient safety,

(8) The efficacy (performance in trial), effectiveness (performance in real situations) and added therapeutic benefit against existing standards of treatment (how much better it treats a condition than existing therapies) and

(9) The resources available to the HSE

The Reimbursement List is publically available on the HSE website at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/pcrs/items/>. The reimbursement price of all items on the Reimbursement List available under Community Drug Schemes including CGM sensors are available through this portal:

Code ^	Description ^	Price ^	Coding Instruction ^	Name ^	Pk Size ^
94169	Medtronic Guardian Sensor 3 BNLGSENS310 10 (A)	495	Code the number of sensors dispensed	MEDTRONIC GUARDIAN 3 BNLGSENS310	10
97622	Dexcom G4 Platinum/G5 Mobile Sensor STS-GF-001 1 (A)	58.82		DEXCOM G4 PLATINUM/G5 MOBILE STS-GF-001	1
97626	Dexcom G4 Platinum/G5 Mobile Sensor STS-GF-004 4 (A)	235.26		DEXCOM G4 PLATINUM/G5 MOBILE STS-GF-004	4
97628	Dexcom G6 Sensor STS-GS-002 1 (A)	75		DEXCOM G6 STS-GS-002	1
97629	Dexcom G6 Sensor STS-GS-003 3 (A)	225		DEXCOM G6 STS-GS-003	3

Please note: There are different wear times associated with the above CGM sensors which is a consideration in the agreed reimbursement prices.

Yours sincerely,



Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service

The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie