



29th September 2021

Deputy Jackie Cahill,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 44247/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the funding and supports that are available to cover the cost of hearing aids for adults; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Jackie Cahill

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 44247/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE Community audiology service offers hearing aids and associated maintenance for free to all children under the age of 18 and adults with a full medical card.

For those who have paid appropriate PRSI contributions, they may be entitled to the Treatment Benefit Scheme, provided by the Department of Social Protection. This scheme provides a max funding of €500 for each hearing aid (and €100 towards the cost of repairs) and no longer requires additional client funding. Suppliers are registered with the Department of Social Protection.

If an individual has private health insurance, it may cover hearing aid costs depending upon the policy type. Patients can claim tax relief on the purchase of hearing aids where prescribed, referred or advised to, by a practitioner. Eligibility and claims are through www.revenue.ie.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations