



5th October 2021

Deputy Violet-Anne Wynne,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 44606/21 - To ask the Minister for Health when the current application process for HSE insulin pumps tendering contract will be completed; when the new list of insulin pumps will be sent to the community drug schemes; the estimated timeline of the process from product review to inclusion on the PCRS; the expert group that will review the insulin pumps; and if the patient is involved in this process.

- Violet-Anne Wynne

Dear Deputy Wynne,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 44606/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The answers to your specific queries are as follows:

1. *'When the current application process for the insulin pumps contract will be complete'?*

The application process has been evaluated and approved by the National Expert Group who have recommended their addition to the approved list. The Head of Primary Care Community Operations has, as budget holder, approved the addition of these items to the Insulin Pump and Transmitter Pricing Agreement.

2. *'When the new list of insulin pumps will be sent to the community drug schemes'?*

After approval, there is an implementation phase for bringing new products to the market. There is also a detailed communication which needs to be prepared. It would be hoped that the updated list of insulin pumps would be communicated to all stakeholders including Diabetes Multidisciplinary teams and Community Care Areas by end of Q3 2021.

3. *'What is the estimated timeline of the process from product review to inclusion on the PCRS'?*

The consumables have already been evaluated by PCRS and are approved subject to final confirmation. Following final confirmation from the budget holder the process required to get the new products added to the reimbursement list usually takes between 3-5 weeks.

4. *'Who are the expert group who will review the insulin pumps'?*

The Expert group is a multidisciplinary group representing both adult and paediatric Diabetes experts including Consultant Endocrinologists, Diabetes Nurse Specialists, Diabetes Dieticians, Diabetes Programme Managers as well as representatives from Procurement, Community Care, Biomechanical Engineering and the PCRS.

5. *'Is there a patient involved in the process'?*

One of the members of the Expert group is an insulin pump user.

In addition, it is important to note that patients are prescribed these pumps and transmitters by their Consultant Endocrinologist taking into consideration which device/combination from the current pricing agreement will best meet their clinical need.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations