



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohifigeach Cliniciúil
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Deputy Violet Anne Wynne, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 44607/21

To ask the Minister for Health if funding for BERGER, the type 1 diabetes education programme for adults which is run in certain diabetes centres has been suspended or discontinued; if suspended, when this funding will resume; and if funding has been discontinued, the plans being considered to provide alternative type 1 diabetes education for adults attending these clinics.

Dear Deputy Wynne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Diabetes on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The BERGER programme is a self-management education programme for individuals living with Type 1 diabetes, which was developed in Germany. Roche pharmaceutical company adapted this programme and supported roll out of this adapted version, entitled Accu-Check Education programme, in Ireland.

In 2018, the Department of Health (DOH) published the *National Clinical Guidelines (NCGs) for Type 1 Diabetes*. These NCGs emphasised the importance of structured education and patient support to achieve the best possible outcomes for the person with diabetes.

Following publication of *National Clinical Guidelines (NCGs) for Type 1 Diabetes*, Roche advised centres that the Accu-Check Education Programme did not have required processes in place to achieve a Quality Institute for Self-Management Education and Training (QISMET) accreditation (i.e., regular review of content and audit process for quality of delivery).

The Accu-Check Education Programme was formally withdrawn by the company as a consequence. Thus, the Accu-Check Education Programme is not currently delivered in Ireland. There was no specific funding allocation for delivery of the Accu-Check programme, as roll-out was supported by Roche pharmaceutical company.

The National Clinical Programme for Diabetes is currently working to advise and support relevant diabetes centres to advance their rollout of the accredited Dose Adjustment For Normal Eating (DAFNE) programme to meet the clinical recommendations that all adults with type 1 Diabetes are offered a structured education programme of proven benefit. This will be further enabled by the Enhanced Community Care programme.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Anne Horgan
General Manager