



12th October 2021

Deputy Cathal Crowe,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 46220/21 - To ask the Minister for Health when the current application process for the HSE insulin pumps tendering contract will be completed; when the new list of insulin pumps will be sent to the community drug schemes; the locations in which patients will have access to same; the estimated timeline of the process from product review to inclusion on the PCRS; the persons in the expert group who review the insulin pumps; and the point in the process patient representatives are involved in this process.

- Cathal Crowe

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 46220/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In response to your questions, the application process for the latest insulin pumps contract has been completed and the associated consumables have been approved for The Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS). We are now in the implementation phase of this contract which involves a number of actions including the product supplier putting in place the necessary supply, support, staff, and training resource. It is expected that this phase will be completed in November 2021.

These products will as with existing insulin pumps be available nationally and follow the established criteria and process for accessing these products. Individuals 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.

The expert group who review the insulin pumps is a multidisciplinary group representing both adult and paediatric Diabetes. Members include Consultant Endocrinologists, Diabetes Nurse Specialists, Diabetes Dieticians, Diabetes Programme Managers as well as representatives from Procurement, Community Care, Biomechanical Engineering and the PCRS. This group also includes an insulin pump user.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seán McArt'.

Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations