



Marian Harkin, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

12th October 2021

PQ: 46643/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications for the FreeStyle Libre device that were submitted by individual hospitals for persons with diabetes over 21 years of age; the number that were approved; the number that were refused in each of the years 2017 to 2020 and to date in 2021, in tabular form; his plans to remove the age restriction on the FreeStyle Libre device; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Marian Harkin

Dear Deputy Harkin,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 46643/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Data at individual hospital level is not captured for the purposes of approval and reimbursement.

From 3rd April 2018 to 31st December 2020 inclusive:

The number of applications submitted for those over 21 was as follows:

| FreeStyle Libre Sensors (Over 21 years of age) | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>No. of applications received</i> | 589 | 739 | 543 |
| <i>No. of applications approved</i> | 384 | 406 | 266 |
| <i>No. of applications rejected</i> | 205 | 333 | 277 |

These are not metrics that are ordinarily captured in our data structures and require bespoke analysis which is resource intensive. The 2021 position will be compiled at the end of the year.

The HSE has commissioned a full Health Technology Assessment to be conducted by the NCPE in collaboration with the Medicines Management Programme. If a positive recommendation arises on completion of the Health Technology Assessment, the PCRS will progress the funding of the device as part of the National Service Plan.'

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Doyle', written in a cursive style.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service