



Róisín Shortall, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

27th April 2022

PQ: 20108/22

To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding certain pharmacies who are charging extra for blister packs over and above the prescription charges; if he is taking steps to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 20108/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

There are no reimbursement arrangements under the GMS and Community Drugs Schemes for the filling of blister packs (monitored dosage system). The Irish Pharmacy Representative Organisation (IPU) made a proposal to the Department of Health previously in this regard but it was not approved for funding. It is entirely acceptable for a pharmacy to offer, as a quality initiative, to provide a patient's medicines in such systems. However, it is a pharmacy arrangement with the patient and is not a state funded service.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Doyle', written over a thin horizontal line.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service