

Primary Care Reimbursement Service Exit 5, M50, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, D11 XKF3

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Cian O'Callaghan, T.D. Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

8th August, 2022

PQ: 35684/22

To ask the Minister for Health if a value-for-money and policy review has been performed of the continuous positive airway pressure therapy funding schemes with particular focus on the impact of treatment non-compliance in Ireland given the potential for substantial cost savings through the rolling costs of device rental schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter.-Cian O'Callaghan

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 35684/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

There are not two schemes in operation for the provision of respiratory sleep therapy services including continuous positive airway pressure therapy (CPAP). Currently there is one scheme in place for the provision of respiratory sleep therapy services to eligible (as set out in the Health Act 1970) persons. In such cases eligible persons will be provided with the required equipment and services by approved companies who have been contracted by means of a competitive procurement process.

Persons who do not have full eligibility i.e. who have limited eligibility have to make their own arrangements for the provision of this type of equipment and services. As is the case with their prescribed medication, these clients may seek to have some rental costs for a CPAP machine reimbursed via the Drug Payment Scheme (DPS). The DPS allows for reimbursement in respect of approved prescribed medicines or rental costs for CPAP machines subject to the deduction of the monthly family threshold which is currently €80.

Yours sincerely,

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Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service