



Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

PQ: 30899/22

**To ask the Minister for Health if any consideration has been given by his Department to the provision of devices (CoaguChek meters.) and self-test strips free of charge for persons who require long-term anticoagulant therapy with warfarin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Jennifer Carroll MacNeill**

Dear Deputy MacNeill,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 30899/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

INR self-testing strips such as CoaguChek® are not reimbursable under GMS and Community Drug Schemes. Whilst a range of diagnostics are available on the Reimbursement List for use in Diabetes, a change in HSE policy would be required to expand this to other therapeutic areas such as INR testing ancillaries.

Equipment such as machines are not reimbursed by the HSE Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) under Community Drug Schemes.

On very rare occasions, CoaguChek® strips were approved in the most exceptional circumstances under Discretionary Hardship Arrangements where it is clear that there is no other option for the patient i.e. the person is bed bound or cannot travel a great distance to the INR clinic.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Doyle'.

Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service