



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens, D08 W2A8
R: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

Clinical Design & Innovation; Office of the Chief Clinical Officer
Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8
E: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

28th July, 2023

Deputy John Paul Phelan, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 35958/23, PQ 35959/23, PQ 35960/23

PQ 35958/23_ To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the integration of continuous glucose monitor devices into healthcare practice and guidance in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ 35959/23_ To ask the Minister for Health whether his Department is or will be developing national clinical guidance to underpin the provision and funding of continuous glucose monitor devices in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ 35960/23_ To ask the Minister for Health whether his Department is developing national clinical guidelines for type 2 diabetes mellitus; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Phelan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Diabetes on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

For those living with diabetes, monitoring glucose levels on a daily basis is the key to avoiding complications. It is recommended that people who are on insulin test a minimum of 4 times per day. This level of frequent testing using traditional finger pricking devices can be painful, inconvenient and difficult to achieve as people go about their daily life. Continuous Glucose monitor (CGM) is a disruptive technology that helps people living with diabetes on insulin move away from the hassle of multiple daily finger pricks (to check their blood sugar levels) and instead enables needle-free monitoring of blood sugar via a sensor inserted on the arm. A continuous glucose monitor (CGM) is a device that measures blood glucose levels and sends the readings to a display device or smartphone.

Updated NICE (2022) UK Guidelines recommend that a CGM/Free style libre (FSL) intermittently scanned sensor should be provided to all people with Diabetes Mellitus (DM) using insulin.

In 2018, in line with HIQA's National Clinical Guideline on Adult type 1 diabetes mellitus (DM) and recommendations of a Health Technology Assessment Group (HTAG)¹, a FSL device (a form of Flash Glucose monitoring which requires the user to scan the sensor on their arm) was made available on

an individualised basis to children and young adults with type one diabetes (age 4-21 years) through the HSE's Primary Care Reimbursement Scheme (PCRS).

Subsequently, a HIQA rapid health technology assessment (HTA) of CGM in Adults with Type 1 DM was completed in 2023. The final report and associated recommendations are pending.

In 2018, the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC) launched the National Clinical Guidelines of Type 1 DM² which was a contextualisation of the NICE, UK guidelines. The National Clinical Programme for Diabetes has re-engaged this year with the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC), Department of Health and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), UK, to commence the process of updating the National Clinical Guidelines for Type 1 DM and contextualisation of the NICE 2022 updates.

The HSE Integrated Model of Care for People with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus was launched in 2018. The National Clinical Programme has initiated a national working group to review and update this Type 2 DM Model of Care. This Group consists of multi-stakeholder involvement including people with Diabetes, representation from Diabetes Ireland advocacy group, Clinicians, Nurses, Health & Social Care Professionals and higher education institutes (HEIs). This integrated model of care will outline an end to end pathway of care for people with Type 2 Diabetes from prevention to acute inpatient care.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Anne Horgan
General Manager

References:

1. <https://www.hiqa.ie/reports-and-publications/hrb-cicer-national-clinical-guideline-support/national-clinical-guideline>
2. <https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/c7f67e-new-guideline-launched-to-improve-the-quality-and-safety-of-treating/>