



Noel Grealish, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

6th July 2023

PQ: 30815/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that the current process whereby access to a diabetes glucose monitoring technology discriminates against patients in terms of age (FreeStyle Libre · Children who commence their treatment on FreeStyle Libre are forced to take on another treatment at 18 years of age) and is tantamount to deprivation of access to people with a disability and needs to be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Noel Grealish

Dear Deputy Grealish,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 30815/23), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) sensors were made available on an administrative basis to people with Type 1 Diabetes in line with a recommendation accepted by the HSE from the Health Technology Advisory Group from 1st April 2018 (advice note attached). Consultant Endocrinologists may apply to the HSE, on behalf of specific patients, for reimbursement support of FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) sensors. The application process is undertaken by means of a dedicated online portal, which has been operational since 3rd April 2018. In line with the recommendations outlined of the Health Technology Assessment Group, access to this product was made available to children and young adults (4 -21 years).

Reimbursement support remains in place for an approved patient if they reach over the age of 21 years of age. Approval for FreeStyle Libre sensors is not withdrawn in these circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service