



Colm Burke, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

3rd April 2023

PQ: 12599/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of prescriptions issued for fentanyl as part of a public drug scheme or in a HSE hospital, psychiatric facility or primary care setting and by a private GP from 2011 to date, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke

Dear Deputy Burke,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 12599/23), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Long Term Illness:

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	86
2012	41
2013	80
2014	146
2015	149
2016	142
2017	120
2018	150
2019	151
2020	139
2021	136
2022	121
Total	1,461

Drug Payment Scheme:

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	5,848
2012	5,680
2013	5,166
2014	5,736
2015	6,142
2016	6,201
2017	6,069
2018	5,684
2019	5,463
2020	5,682
2021	5,800
2022	6,039
Total	69,510

General Medical Service:

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	58,086
2012	58,623
2013	57,714
2014	55,175
2015	54,374
2016	54,987
2017	53,069
2018	52,628
2019	51,538
2020	50,396
2021	48,528
2022	46,861
Total	641,979

Please note the information provided is based on claim data which has been received by the Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) from Community Pharmacists and includes items reimbursed by PCRS only. This data does not capture items dispensed outside of community drug schemes where the prescription has been paid for privately by the patient or patient representative. This data may not capture claims which are under the DPS monthly threshold amount. PCRS does not capture data in relation to diagnosis or indication.

Yours sincerely,



Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service