



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

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

PQ: 12600/23

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of prescriptions issued for codeine 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 12600/23), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

**Long Term Illness:**

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	1,277
2012	985
2013	958
2014	1,770
2015	2,377
2016	2,419
2017	2,300
2018	2,484
2019	2,596
2020	2,792
2021	2,658
2022	2,539
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,155</b>

**Drug Payment Scheme:**

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	129,293
2012	119,812
2013	100,864
2014	94,258
2015	98,129
2016	98,383
2017	93,630
2018	97,375
2019	99,818
2020	105,763
2021	114,683
2022	152,653
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,304,661</b>

**General Medical Services:**

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	732,263
2012	786,758
2013	793,762
2014	780,270
2015	823,109
2016	847,610
2017	826,926
2018	845,538
2019	870,578
2020	903,289
2021	932,503
2022	955,096
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,097,702</b>

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