



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

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

PQ: 12603/23

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of prescriptions issued for hydromorphone 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 12603/23), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

**Long Term Illness:**

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	0
2012	1
2013	1
2014	2
2015	1
2016	2
2017	2
2018	0
2019	0
2020	0
2021	0
2022	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

**Drugs Payment Scheme:**

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	411
2012	397
2013	310
2014	361
2015	325
2016	245
2017	289
2018	289
2019	237
2020	253
2021	231
2022	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,548</b>

**General Medical Services:**

Year	No of Prescriptions
2011	3,935
2012	3,575
2013	3,651
2014	3,853
2015	3,696
2016	3,210
2017	2,679
2018	2,433
2019	2,424
2020	2,528
2021	1,861
2022	1,589
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,434</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