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Michael Healy Rae, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

25<sup>th</sup> February 2025

PQ: 5766/25

**To ask the Minister for Health the reason a medication (details supplied) is not covered under the drugs payment scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Michael Healy-Rae**

Details supplied:

*Minister can you clarify why primolut is covered under the Drugs payment scheme for pharmacies but when the patient who is prescribed it tries to claim it back as a refund under the drugs payment scheme they are told it is not covered. Please clarify.*

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 5766/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Primolut® is an unlicensed medicine in Ireland. It is reimbursed on an individual patient basis and can be claimed by the community pharmacy contractor under the Drugs Payment Scheme for approved patients. Given the product is approved on a patient specific basis, it would not fall under public refunds. Primolut® is not on the list of reimbursable items since the Marketing Authorisation Holder discontinued the product.

If the dispensing pharmacy have queries regarding reimbursement and claiming of the unlicensed medicine, they can contact the HSE Primary Care Reimbursement Service.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Reimbursement Service

The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: [Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie](mailto:Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie)