Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil Bealach amach 5, M50, An Bóthar Thuaidh, Fionnghlas Baile Átha Cliath 11, D11 XKF3

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Health Service Executive, Primary Care Reimbursement Service
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John Lahart, T.D. Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street,

19th March 2025

PQ: 5998/25

Dublin 2.

To ask the Minister for Health if she will streamline HSE reimbursement processes and reduce administrative burdens to provide for a nationwide programme for safe and appropriate medicine disposal. -John Lahart

Dear Deputy Lahart,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 5998/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE have never organised a national 'Disposal of Unused Medicines Properly' (DUMP) campaign. As with any proposal to increase HSE expenditure, it would have to be carefully considered and scoped appropriately. The HSE would anticipate that in any discussion with the community pharmacy representative body (Irish Pharmacy Union) in relation to a new pharmacy contractor agreement, for a nationwide approach to better medication management, it would include appropriate disposal arrangements for unused medicines.

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