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

26th September 2025

PQ: 48193/25

To ask the Minister for Health the alternative supports available to an individual diagnosed with type 2 diabetes aside from insulin tablets and injections; the likelihood of access to real-time continuous glucose monitoring devices; and if she 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 48193/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Drugs, medicines and non-drug items reimbursable under the Long Term Illness (LTI) Scheme are intended for the treatment of the primary condition. Core Lists were developed following detailed consultation with Medical Officers, HSE Pharmacists and HSE Medicines Management Programme (MMP). The HSE is satisfied that all medicines that should be necessary for the treatment of each primary LTI condition are provided on these Core Lists which are published on the HSE website at <https://www2.hse.ie/services/schemes-allowances/lti/approved-medications/>. Diabetes is one of the illnesses covered under the LTI scheme, patients diagnosed with type 2 diabetes are entitled to all medicines and ancillaries listed under Core List F, this includes blood glucose test strips and lancets which monitor blood glucose levels.

The HSE has statutory responsibility for pricing and reimbursement decisions under the Community Drug Schemes, in accordance with the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013. In making a relevant reimbursement decision, the HSE is required under the Act to have regard to a number of criteria including the clinical efficacy, the health needs of the public, cost effectiveness, and potential or actual budget impact.

The Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Rapid Health Technology Assessment (HTA) of Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) in Adults with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus was published on 29th

September 2023. The published document can be found at: [Rapid Health Technology Assessment of Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Adults with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus | HIQA](#).

In line with the advice from HIQA and due to the budget impact associated with CGM sensors, the HSE established a single reimbursement application system for all CGM sensors on the reimbursement list on 1st December 2023.

Reimbursement support for CGM sensors at this point in time is based on the HIQA HTA and is for patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus regardless of age, who have required insulin from the outset. Reimbursement does not extend to other cohorts such as people with type 2 diabetes who require insulin, or patients previously diagnosed with type 2 diabetes which is now classified as type 1 diabetes based on laboratory investigations such as C-peptide measurement or diabetes-specific autoantibodies. To date, a HTA of CGM sensors for people with type 2 diabetes mellitus or other types of diabetes excluded from the HTA referenced above, such as latent autoimmune diabetes in adults (LADA), type 3c diabetes, monogenic forms of diabetes etc. has not been undertaken. Therefore, there is limited information to support the extension of reimbursement to this cohort, including cost-effectiveness assessment and budget impact of same.

An application for reimbursement support of CGM sensors can be submitted for any patient, and each application is reviewed by the HSE-Medicines Management Programme (MMP) on a case-by-case basis. The single national reimbursement application system and central assessment of applications ensures that there is equitable application of the reimbursement criteria for CGM sensors.

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