



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

**Seirbhísí Comhroinnte Airgeadais
Seirbhís Aisioca Príomhchúraim**

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**Finance Shared Services
Primary Care Reimbursement Service**

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Circular No 020/08

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Dear Pharmacist,

You will be aware of the need to code appropriately all medicinal products (including parallel imported / parallel distributed products) that are dispensed under the GMS and Community Drugs Schemes so that your claims will be correctly reimbursed. The GMS coding is an important means by which the system can identify which type of product (parallel-imported / parallel distributed or reference originator) has actually been dispensed.

A number of companies are offering parallel imported / parallel distributed products in the marketplace. It is the policy of the HSE that it requires separate GMS codes for such products so that they can be traced to patient level and that the appropriate reimbursement can be made. Supervising Pharmacists should ensure that all their staff are aware of this and are vigilant in this regard.

Please be advised that, where a pharmacist/pharmacy dispenses a parallel imported / parallel distributed product without using the appropriate code, or claims for one product while dispensing another, this may be found to constitute a fraudulent claim against the HSE.

It is also important to note that the pharmacist must dispense the prescription as written unless the prescriber has been contacted and agreed to any change suggested. As outlined in the administrative guidelines, where such occurs, the prescriber must sign alterations and additions.

Yours faithfully,

Patrick Burke
Assistant National Director
Primary Care Reimbursement Service