



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
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29th October 2019

Circular 41/19

Re: HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

Dear Pharmacist,

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is the pre-emptive use of oral antiretroviral therapy (ART) in HIV negative people to reduce the risk of HIV infection. The HSE has approved reimbursement for a fixed dose combination of oral emtricitabine/tenofovir under GMS and DPS from 4th November 2019 for HSE approved persons only. Please note no prescription charge is incurred by the patient when they are approved by the HSE as the product is exempt from prescription charges. Approved patients can also access these medicines under their DPS eligibility without charge.

The Primary Care Reimbursement Service is introducing a reimbursement application system to ensure appropriate patients access the programme in line with national guidelines from approved prescribers.

Service users are being informed by relevant HSE services that PrEP will be dispensed through community pharmacies and that they will need a Drugs Payment Scheme (DPS) card or General Medical Services (GMS) card to access free PrEP from the HSE. However, there may be clinically eligible and physician approved service users who have not yet received or applied for their DPS when they present with a PrEP prescription. While pharmacies can assist in registering patients for express DPS, the patient must complete the eligibility process for their 'patient specific' approval information to become visible on the Secure Checker.

Approval can be confirmed through the 'Eligibility Confirmation' on the Pharmacy Application Suite under 'Patient Specific Arrangements'.

Pharmacies can claim for Emtricitabine/Tenofovir electronically using the relevant administrative claiming code as set out below, submitting with monthly claims.

Administrative Code	Product
77100	Emtricitabine/Tenofovir disoproxil Mylan 200mg/245mg Film Coated Tablets x 30
77101	Emtricitabine/Tenofovir disoproxil Teva 200mg/245mg Film Coated Tablets x 30

Reimbursement Claims submitted for patients who are not HSE approved will not be paid.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours faithfully,



Shaun Flanagan
Primary Care Eligibility and Reimbursement Service