

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte Seirbhís Aisíoca Príomhchúraim Bealach amach 5 an M50 An Bóthar Thuaidh Fionnghlas Baile Átha Cliath 11 Health Service Executive Primary Care Reimbursement Service Exit 5, M50 North Road Finglas Dublin 11

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Circular 014/12

5<sup>th</sup> September 2012

## TO EACH PARTICPATING PHARMACIST

Re: Direct Factor Xa Inhibitors associated with certain Elective Orthopaedic Surgical Procedures – Apixaban

Eliquis Film Coated Tabs. 2.5 mg. 20 (A)14024Eliquis Film Coated Tabs. 2.5 mg. 60 (A)14025

Dear Pharmacist,

The HSE wishes to bring to your attention that the above direct factor Xa inhibitor medicinal products are included on the List of GMS Reimbursable Items from September 2012 on the basis of their licensed indications *i.e.* prevention of venous thromboembolic events (VTE) in adult patients who have undergone elective hip or knee replacement surgery.

Apixaban will only be reimbursed for these specified elective surgical indications.

Pharmacists will only be reimbursed for one month's supply under the GMS and Community Drug Schemes and should be vigilant in this regard when accepting prescriptions.

Doctors have been informed that a maximum of one month's supply for Apixaban may be reimbursed.

Yours faithfully,

Patrick Burke Primary Care Reimbursement Service