



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Seirbhís Aisíoca Príomhchúraim
Bealach amach 5 an M50
An Bóthar Thuaidh
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Circular No. 027 /12

28 December 2012

Re. Drugs Payment Scheme & Prescription Charges

Dear Pharmacist,

The Minister for Health & Children has made an order increasing the threshold for prescription medicines under the Drugs Payment Scheme to €144.00.

With effect from 1st January 2013 no individual or family will have to pay more than €144.00 in any calendar month for approved prescribed drugs, medicines and appliances for use by that person or his/her family in that month – pharmacists will be reimbursed amounts of expenditure in excess of €144.00.

Pharmacists are reminded they can complete an Emergency Registration Form for any individual/family that is not currently registered under the Drugs Payment Scheme.

The Government has also approved an increase in the prescription charge from 50c per item to €1.50 per item for prescribed drugs, medicines and appliances reimbursed under the GMS Scheme. A prescription charge will also apply for clients accessing products:

- using Hospital Emergency Prescriptions
- using Dental Prescriptions under the Dental Treatment Scheme
- under the EEA Scheme
- under the discretionary hardship arrangements
- under the Infectious Diseases Regulations (TB Drugs).

The monthly cap has also increased from €10.00 to €19.50 per person or family, with effect from 1st January 2013.

Yours faithfully,

Patrick Burke
Primary Care Reimbursement Service