



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil  
Bealach amach 5 an M50, An Bóthar Thuaidh, Fionnghlas  
Baile Átha Cliath 11, D11 XKF3  
Guthán: (01) 864 7100 Facs: (01) 834 3589

Health Service Executive, Primary Care Reimbursement Service  
Exit 5, M50, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, D11 XKF3  
Tel: (01) 864 7100 Fax: (01) 834 3589

28<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Circular 028/17

### Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Dear Pharmacist,

From 1st July 2017, female medical card holders will be able to obtain Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) directly from their pharmacist, without a GP prescription, following a pharmacist delivered consultation. **No prescription charge is incurred by the patient.**

The Health Professionals (Reduction of Payments to Community Pharmacy Contractors) (Amendment) Regulations 2017, Schedule 2 sets out the payment of €11.50 plus dispensing fee as applicable per provision of EHC service without a prescription from a GP under the GMS scheme.

#### List of Products Reimbursable under the EHC Service

The products reimbursable under the EHC service are:

ATC Code	Drug Code	Drug Description	Reimbursement Price
G03AD01	45961	Prevenelle 1500 mcg tab (1)	€6.81
G03AD02	35500	ellaOne 30 mg tab (1)	€16.44

#### Claiming for the EHC Service

The Pharmacist is paid a consultation fee where they have exercised their professional judgement in respect of EHC. There are two professional service reimbursable codes:

Code to Claim Professional Service Fee	Pharmacist EHC Service	Product Dispensed (Y/N)
79996	Payment for provision of emergency hormonal contraception service without a prescription from a general practitioner (Product supplied)	€11.50 (Y)
79997	Payment for provision of emergency hormonal contraception service without a prescription from a general practitioner (Product not supplied)	€11.50 (N)

It is recognised that in a very limited number of circumstances following Pharmacist consultation, supply of emergency contraception is not appropriate and therefore the service fee can be claimed using the code assigned to non-supply of product.

The service is recorded through the normal GMS claims procedure with the relevant reimbursement code(s) provided.

1. **The Pharmacy Contract Number must be inserted in the 'Prescriber' field.** The pharmacist enters code for consultation (a) with supply or (b) without supply. If a consult results in supply, pharmacist states product dispensed either Prevenelle or ellaOne.
2. The patient must sign the Unified Claim Form (UCF) to confirm that they have received the service.
3. The Pharmacist confirms using the following text on the UCF that they have provided the service in line with the relevant protocol:
  - (i) *'I confirm that I have counselled the patient and provided the service and/or product listed in compliance with the relevant protocol'*
  - (ii) Pharmacist signature and PSI Registration Number of the Pharmacist
4. The top copy of the UCF is submitted with GMS claims bundle as supporting paper documentation using form number format.

You are reminded that this service is applicable to valid medical card holders and is exempt from prescription charges. A prescription charge will not be deducted from your GMS payment in respect of this service.

We look forward to working with Pharmacists in this public health measure.

Yours faithfully,



Anne Marie Hoey  
Primary Care Reimbursement and Eligibility