



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seirbhís Aisíoca Príomhchúraim  
Bealach amach 5 an M50  
An Bóthar Thuaidh  
Fionnghlas  
Baile Átha Cliath 11

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**Circular No. 004/10**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010**

Dear Pharmacist,

The PCRS reimburses Pharmacists in respect of the claims for eligible patients submitted under the Long Term Illness (LTI) Scheme.

The Scheme allows for the provision, through Community Pharmacy, of drugs and medicines for the treatment of specified conditions free to registered clients. Other drugs and medicines not related to the specified condition must be paid for in the normal way or claimed through other relevant Community Drugs Schemes where patient eligibility has been confirmed. Medical and Surgical appliances may also be supplied/ paid for through the client's Local Health Office.

When patients' medicines are changed or additional items prescribed for their Long Term Illness(es) approval must be given by their Local Health Office. The Long Term Illness Book should be updated accordingly.

From 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010, where a claimed item is not approved for an LTI patient, this will be reported on your monthly Detailed Payment Listing so that you can alert the client that the product has not been approved by the Local Health Office. The patient must seek approval from the Local Health Office in order to continue to access the item free of charge. The PCRS will process non approved items for 4 calendar months to enable the client to attain approval for the item(s) in question. However, this will be closely monitored to identify if additional measures are required.

Pharmacists are reminded that only drugs and medicines intended for the treatment of the patients Long Term Illness(es) will be reimbursed.

This process should assist pharmacists in identifying non-approved drugs and medicines for their LTI patients. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Burke  
Primary Care Reimbursement Service

