



20th January 2020

Circular 02/2020

**Introduction of Multiple Sclerosis, Motor Neuron Disease and Immunology High Tech drugs
to the High Tech Hub**

Dear Pharmacist,

The focus of the next phase of deployment for the High Tech Hub is Neurology and Immunology. From the 1st of March 2020, the drug codes listed in Appendix 1 will be added to those that are already only available for order via the hub.

The most efficient way to place orders is to use the hub to set up your preferred High Tech supplier(s) or alternatively you can select a preferred supplier(s) at drug level. It is vitally important that you set up your preferred supplier as soon as you access the hub for the first time.

If your patient is on one of these medications for another licensed indication, please enter this prescription and raise the order for the medication on the High Tech hub.

As outlined in the FAQ, all High Tech medications must be prescribed on a valid High Tech prescription to be eligible for reimbursement by the HSE PCRS. As previously advised the only exception is for Urology High Tech medication, whereby it is accepted that the consultant may discharge care of patients to the community. In such circumstances, a GP prescription is acceptable for reimbursement, provided the medication was initiated by a consultant urologist.

It should be noted that if a prescriber is specific about a particular brand of High Tech drug on a prescription, it should not be substituted unless approved on the interchangeable list.

Please note that we are updating our User Guide and FAQ documents continuously. They can be located in the "Help" section in the High Tech Hub. Please ensure that your pharmacy staff and locums are informed of this process.

The support team in the High Tech Co-ordination Unit can be contacted by email at pcrs.hitech@hse.ie or by phone 01 8647135. The High Tech Co-ordination Unit fax number is 01 8914899.

We appreciate your ongoing cooperation regarding the High Tech Hub.

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Flanagan
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service

APPENDIX 1

Drug code	Drug Name	I.N.N	Strength	Pack Size
88292	Rebif pfs	Interferon Beta-1a	44mcg/0.5ml	12
88556	Rebif multidose (P.C.O.) soln for inj 1.5ml	Interferon Beta-1a	44mcg/0.5ml	4
88367	Rebif multidose soln. for inj cartridge	Interferon Beta-1a	22mcg/0.5ml	4
88307	Rebif initiation pack	Interferon Beta-1a	8.8mcg cartridge and 22mcg cartridge	1
88369	Rebif solution for inj 2 multidose inj cartridge initiation pack	Interferon Beta-1a	8.8mcg cartridge and 22mcg cartridge	1
88291	Rebif pfs	Interferon Beta-1a	22mcg/0.5ml	12
88368	Rebif multidose soln for inj cartridge	Interferon Beta-1a	44mcg/0.5ml	4
88251	Avonex soln for inj pfs	Interferon Beta-1a	30mcg/0.5ml	4
88285	Avonex soln for inj pfp	Interferon Beta-1a	30mcg/0.5ml	4
88286	Avonex soln for inj pfp	Interferon Beta-1a	30mcg/0.5ml	12
88001	Betaferon injection	Interferon Beta-1b	0.25mg/ml	15
88461	Plegridy starter pack	Peginterferon Beta-1A	63mcg x 1 pfp and 94mcg x 1 pfp	1
88462	Plegridy solution for injection in pfp	Peginterferon Beta-1A	125mcg	2
88575	Copaxone soln for inj in pfs	Glatiramer acetate	20mg/ml	28
88580	Copaxone soln for inj in pfs	Glatiramer acetate	40mg/ml	12
88407	Gilenya hard caps	Fingolimod	0.5mg caps	28
88698	Aubagio film coated tabs	Teriflunomide	14mg	28
88150	Rilutek tabs	Riluzole	50mg	56
88734	Rilutek PCO tabs	Riluzole	50mg	56
88491	Tecfidera gastro resistant hard caps	Dimethyl fumarate	240mg	56
88464	Tecfidera gastro resistant hard caps	Dimethyl fumarate	120mg	14
88774	Brabio soln for inj in pfs	Glatiramer acetate	20mg/ml	28
88884	Brabio soln for inj in pfs	Glatiramer acetate	40mg/ml	12
88891	Rilutek (Doncaster LTD) film coated tabs	Riluzole	50mg	56
88966	Mavenclad tabs	Cladribine	10mg	1
88967	Mavenclad tabs	Cladribine	10mg	4
88968	Mavenclad tabs	Cladribine	10mg	6
88148	Firazyr soln for inj in pfs	Icatibant	10mg/ml	8