



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil  
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Pat Buckley, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

19<sup>th</sup> June 2024

PQ: 24776/24:

**To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that children who are prescribed fluoxetine under 30mg are not covered by the DPS or medical card scheme; the reason for this, considering 30mg tablets are not available; and the steps he will take to resolve the hardship this is causing people in mental health distress.-Pat Buckley**

Dear Deputy Buckley,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 24776/24), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Fluoxetine 20 mg is licensed with the Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) in Ireland. There are a number of 20 mg strength fluoxetine products available on the Reimbursement List under Community Drug Schemes (medical card and Drugs Payment Scheme).

Only licensed products are added to the Reimbursement List under the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013. Pharmaceutical companies are required to submit formal applications if they wish their medicines to be added to the list of reimbursable items. Fluoxetine 10 mg is not licensed in Ireland. However, reimbursement support is provided under Discretionary Hardship Arrangements for medical card holders and the Drugs Payment Scheme for the lower 10 mg strength unlicensed product where a valid prescription is in place.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle

## Primary Care Reimbursement Service

**The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: [Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie](mailto:Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie)**