



Noel Grealish, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

3rd July 2024

PQ: 27639/24

To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the reimbursement of strips for the CoaguChek machine under the GMS and drugs payment schemes to bring Ireland into line with other European countries; if the policy not to refund these products can be reviewed by the Minister; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Noel Grealish

Dear Deputy Grealish,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 27639/24), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

INR self-testing strips such as CoaguChek® are not reimbursable under GMS and Community Drug Schemes. Whilst a range of diagnostics are available on the Reimbursement List for use in Diabetes, a change in HSE policy would be required to expand this to other therapeutic areas such as INR testing ancillaries.

Equipment such as machines are not reimbursed by the HSE Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) under Community Drug Schemes.

On very rare occasions, CoaguChek® strips were approved in the most exceptional circumstances under Discretionary Hardship Arrangements where it is clear that there is no other option for the patient i.e. the person is bed bound or cannot travel a great distance to the INR clinic.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Suzanne Doyle'.

Suzanne Doyle

Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service