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Seán Canney, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

PQ: 40014/24

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of appeals were made to the HSE medicines management programme re Versatis in 2023, and the number that were upheld; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Seán Canney**

Dear Deputy Canney,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 40014/24), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Changes to the reimbursement of lidocaine 700 mg medicated plasters (Versatis®) under the Community Drug Schemes are in place since September 2017.

Following these changes, a clinician must submit an online application for individual reimbursement approval for each patient. An online application is required to be submitted irrespective of the indication for treatment with lidocaine 700 mg medicated plasters (Versatis®).

An appeals process is in place if necessary following a negative reimbursement recommendation from the online application process.

Table 1 outlines the outcome of appeals that were initiated in 2023 for reimbursement support of lidocaine 700 mg medicated plaster (Versatis®) and their current status.

**Table 1: 2023 Outcome of appeals for reimbursement support of lidocaine 700 mg medicated plaster (Versatis®)**

Appeals initiated in 2023	
Number of appeals initiated in 2023	159
<b>Outcome of these appeals</b>	
Reimbursement recommended	42
Reimbursement not recommended	114
Further information required	3

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)**