



Mairéad Farrell, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

PQ: 36460/24

**To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE claims to be saving €4 million per year using biosimilar teriparatide, when the cost of managing fractures is estimated to be increasing by approximately €100 million per year. -Mairéad Farrell**

Dear Deputy Farrell,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 36460/24), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Teriparatide is used for the treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women and men at increased risk of fracture.

In February 2023 following completion of a process for the assessment and selection of best-value medicines, the HSE-Medicines Management Programme (MMP) recommended two biosimilar medicines containing teriparatide, Movymia® and Sondelbay®, as best-value medicines for teriparatide. In April 2024, the MMP recommended a hybrid medicinal product containing teriparatide, Tetriclar®, as an additional best-value medicine for teriparatide.

The best-value medicines are provided to the HSE at a reduced cost in comparison to other medicinal products containing teriparatide.

In August 2024, 85% of individuals in receipt of teriparatide on the High Tech Arrangement received a best-value medicine for teriparatide. To date, the best-value medicine initiative for teriparatide has resulted in savings in excess of €1.5 million.

Since the publication of the first Best Value Biologic (BVB) recommendations in May 2019, there has been a significant increase in the prescribing of the BVB medicines. The BVBs are provided to the HSE at a significantly lower cost than the originator medicine. Prescribing of the recommended BVBs reduces the financial burdens on the HSE arising out of the funding of reimbursed medicines, and can assist in facilitating access to new, innovative medicines for patients.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Doyle".

Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service