

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil Bealach amach 5 an M50, An Bóthar Thuaidh, Fionnghlas Baile Átha Cliath 11, D11 XKF3

Guthán: (01) 864 7100 Facs: (01) 834 3589

Health Service Executive, Primary Care Reimbursement Service Exit 5, M50, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, D11 XKF3

Tel: (01) 864 7100 Fax: (01) 834 3589

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Introduction of integrated data returns

Dear Doctor,

As you know in 2015 an agreement was reached to provide GP care free at the point of service to all children aged under 6 years. GPs are reimbursed an enhanced capitation rate which includes the provision of two periodic assessments at the age of 2 and 5 years with agreed data captured within the practice for return to the HSE. 2015, also saw the introduction of Cycles of Care for Asthma and separately for adult GMS patients with Diabetes with both attracting a higher capitation fee for provision of service and capture of agreed data set.

Since the introduction of Under 6 GP services, Asthma Cycle of Care and Diabetes Cycle of Care, the PCRS has collaborated with General Practice Information Technology (GPIT) Group, system vendors and Healthlink to develop an integrated solution to facilitate the electronic submission of data returns by GPs in respect of the above new services.

These collaborative efforts will assist GPs in reducing the data required to be submitted via an internet browser. The integrated return, for GPs who opt for this approach, will return, via Healthlink, confirmation of service provided to PCRS and separately store anonymised clinical data returned directly to the HSE clinical repository. The latter being extremely important in allowing the HSE evaluate the effectiveness of such GP Practice delivered services into the future.

From February 2018, GPs can return data generated as a result of the delivery by them of periodic assessments, asthma and diabetes cycle of care in accordance with the agreed datasets. Your vendor will provide information regarding new functionality added to your GP Practice Software and provide normal assistance to you in this regard. Please note that data returns will be accepted by the PCRS for services provided since the commencement of the contract. The mechanism for submitting these older data returns will be dependent on the specific implementation by your computer software vendor. However in such cases where the data returns, prior to February 2018, are not capable of being returned in whole or part, GPs should retain their records in the event that they are required for audit purposes.

Queries will continue to be handled through established channels, e.g. general contract queries should continue to be addressed through your Community Healthcare Organisation. Queries related to reimbursement should be addressed through the Doctors Unit, PCRS, on 01 8647100 with queries related to your practice software addressed to your software vendors directly.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Marie Hoey

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Primary Care Reimbursement & Eligibility