

[redacted]

From:

Sent:

[redacted]
23 May 2019 14:15

To:

Finance Foodsuppl

Subject:

Consultation on the VAT Treatment of Supplement Products

I am contributing to the consultation process as a person suffering from a longterm disability taking supplement products on medical advice.

[redacted] I was diagnosed as suffering from Fibromyalgia [redacted]

Fibromyalgia is a life long condition with no cure.

I suffer from:

widespread chronic pain,

severe debilitating fatigue/bed bound for extended periods, anxiety and depression, irritable bowel syndrome,

cognitive impairment 'fibro fog'.

The management of fibromyalgia is extremely expensive/GP & Consultant fees, prescription & supplement charges. Also alternative treatments for pain relief, physiotherapy, aqua therapy etc.

With regard to supplement products I take co-enzyme Q10, Folic Acid and magnesium malate, daily, on the advice of my consultant [redacted] Supplement Products do not qualify for inclusion under the monthly prescription ceiling. I will be very severely financially affected by the proposed Revenue imposition of 23 per cent VAT on all supplement products.

Accordingly,my comment in this regard is that no VAT should be applied to supplement products. People with long term disabilities , who find relief from such products, are in receipt of reduced pensions/disability benefit and are unable to endure any further financial burden.

I am [redacted] of the view that Fibromyalgia should be recognised as a disability in Ireland and put on the longterm disability list. Fibromyalgia was included within the WHO International Classification of diseases in 1992. In 2017 Fibromyalgia was declared as a longterm disability in Northern Ireland.

It is not know how many people in Ireland suffer from fibromyalgia and state funding should be made available urgently for the establishment of a registry of sufferers.

