



Oifig an Straitéis Chúraim Phríomha agus an Phleanála
Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta
HSE, Urlár 2, Páirc Ghnó Samhail, Model Farm Road, Corcaigh
Tel: 021-4928512 R: primarycare.strategy@hse.ie

Office of the Assistant National Director Primary Care
Strategy and Planning
HSE, Floor 2, Model Business Park, Model Farm Road, Cork
Tel: 021-4928512 Email: primarycare.strategy@hse.ie

4th February 2020

**Deputy James Browne, T.D.,
Dail Eireann,
Kildare St.,
Dublin 2.**

Dear Deputy Browne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your Parliamentary Question below which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

PQ 52285/19 - To ask the Minister for Health his views on the possible introduction of inhaler recycling bins in pharmacies here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -James Browne

The National Health Sustainability Office (NHSO) of the HSE develops and implements national sustainability strategies working with staff, patients and the public on sustainability and its impact on health. Increased recycling; promotion of the re-use of materials, correct segregation, waste disposal and waste recovery in healthcare facilities is a priority for the NHSO. The disposal of medicines and associated items such as inhaler's, are considered in the context of the evolving recycling and waste management programme.

In respect of the disposal of medicines in Community Healthcare Organizations, local 'Dispose of Unused Medicines Properly' (DUMP) campaigns are organised yearly by the HSE working in conjunction with community pharmacists and local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley'.

**Geraldine Crowley,
Assistant National Director,
Primary Care Strategy and Planning**