



Primary Care Reimbursement Service
Exit 5, M50, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, D11 XKF3
Tel: 01- 8647100

Mr. Richard Boyd Barrett, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

10th April, 2019

PQ: 13367/19

To ask the Minister for Health if a general practitioner visit card holder over 70 years of age is entitled to choose their new practitioner in cases in which their doctor retires or leaves their practice; if not, if one is allocated by the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 13367/19), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Where a person with eligibility no longer wishes to attend the Medical Practitioner with whom he/she is registered, the person may seek to be included on the GMS list of another Medical Practitioner by completing a 'Medical Card/GP Visit Card Change of General Practitioner (GP) Form and sending it to the HSE for a transfer to another Medical Practitioner and the HSE shall arrange such transfer as soon as possible.

A Medical Practitioner may terminate the Agreement with the HSE on giving three months' notice in writing of his/her intention to terminate, or such shorter period as may be accepted by the HSE. In such circumstances, the Medical Practitioner's GMS patients list is 'frozen' for a period of three months to enable the HSE, at a local level, to advertise the vacancy and to indicate the size of the GMS patient list associated with the vacancy. During that 3-month period the transfer of a patient to another GMS patient list is arranged with the agreement of the locally based HSE Primary Care Service Manager.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Kieran Healy', written over a horizontal line.

Kieran Healy
Primary Care Reimbursement Service