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9th October 2019

Deputy Gino Kenny,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 39696/19

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to update knowledge and skills in relation to the diagnosis, management and treatment of ME for medical professionals working in the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Gino Kenny

Dear Deputy Kenny,

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

As with all assessments and treatments, whether they are provided in primary care or secondary care settings, the aim is to provide comprehensive evidence-based, safe, up-to-date care for all patients. To date there is no specific diagnostic test to determine or confirm a correct diagnosis of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (M.E.) nor is there any specific treatment which works for all people living with the condition. Assessment and interventions need to be tailored to the individual.

There is a working group for M.E. which has convened, the purpose of which is to develop a national guidance document for ME. Main aims of this group include developing formalised protocols for people living with ME, as well as developing a standardised generic assessment tool that can be used with people living with ME to identify, assess and appropriately address their needs.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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David Walsh,
National Director,
Community Operations

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Máire Ní Ghallagáin
Cathair na Bannríonach
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