



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

Patricia Ryan, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

14th December, 2020

PQ: 41077/20

To ask the Minister for Health if he will introduce a system to allow Members of the Houses of the Oireachtas to apply for medical cards on behalf of constituents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Patricia Ryan

Dear Deputy Ryan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 41077/20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The National Medical Card unit allows for an advocate to act on the applicants behalf. This service is available through the manual application form and the online portal.

Members of the Houses of the Oireachtas can act as an advocate and apply for Medical Cards on behalf of constituents by completing Section 5A of the Medical Card application form. This section is for applicants that may nominate another person to deal with their Medical Card application, or where there are indications that the applicant is ward of court or where the applicant is incapable of completing the form themselves. The advocate details are retained on the file and all correspondence is sent to the nominated contact. These details must be completed on each application form or renewal form due to circumstances changing.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service

The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie