

Seirbhís Aisióca Príomhchúraim  
Bealach amach 5 an M50, Án Bóthar Thuaidh, Fionnghlas, Baile  
Átha Cliath 11, D11 XKF3



Primary Care Reimbursement Service  
Exit 5, M50, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, D11  
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Alan Kelly, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

13<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

PQ: 19710/20

**To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of dates and attendees at each meeting of the clinical advisory group into medical cards for terminally ill patients - Alan Kelly.**

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 19710/20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Clinical Advisory Group (CAG) was re-called in December 2019 to provide specific advice in relation to medical cards for patients with terminal illnesses at the request of the Minister for Health. The need for new members with relevant clinical expertise (in palliative care & oncology) was identified in advance of the first meeting of the CAG.

The CAG met on the 18 December 2019, 15 January 2020, 29 January 2020 and 12 February 2020. It was working on a draft report as the covid-19 pandemic emerged. Completion of its report was delayed due to the involvement of various members and individuals in the overall response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The CAG completed the review of its draft report remotely as further meetings were not possible due to the clinical commitments of individual members and pandemic restrictions on face to face meetings. A final draft was reviewed by all members during May and June 2020 and following feedback from all members the draft report was further considered by the Chair of the CAG during July 2020. The final report will be provided to the Department of Health in August 2020.

Yours sincerely,

Kieran Healy  
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service