



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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Oifig an Príohifigeach Cliniciúil Eatromhach  
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**Deputy Roisin Shortall**

Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020

**PQ951/20 - To ask the Minister for Health if there is a written process for issuing Covid-19 sector-specific guidance by agencies HPSC and HSE**

Dear Deputy Shortall

Following the onset of the Covid crisis, the National Clinical Programmes Advisory Group was re-oriented to provide clinical guidance regarding the provision of clinical care, both condition and situation-specific for Covid-19. This resulted in the development of the CCO Clinical Advisory Group (CAG). CAG has a clear process for the development and screening of guidance, which was then made available to the wider clinical community on <https://hse.drsteevenslibrary.ie/Covid19V2>. At the peak of the pandemic in Ireland (early and mid-April), the site received approximately 25,000 hits per week, with many of those views directed at advice for the residential care sector. The information was made available to all healthcare staff.

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) receives requests for guidance development from many sources including from NPHE and its subgroups, and has an internal process for prioritisation, evidence synthesis, expert advisory input (NPHE), collaboration with other sectors and dissemination of information.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden  
General Manager, Office of the CCO