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27th May 2020

Deputy Jim O'Callaghan, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 5458/20

To ask the Minister for Health if statistical data on the incidence of bronchitis in April 2020 is or may become available; and if so, the details of same

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Respiratory on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

We have consulted with the HIPE office on this query as they are our primary data source. HIPE has informed us that they do have codes for bronchitis, although if COPD is present with bronchitis then COPD will be what is coded. Unfortunately HIPE are unable to provide data for April at this time. The HIPE file becomes available when the full years file is coded and the data is final and can no longer change. For the 2020 data this will be March or April 2021. Provisional HIPE data is generally not provided in answer to PQs because the responses form part of the public Dáil record. Unfortunately, the NCP Respiratory is unable to provide an answer to this query.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Gilsenan O'Neill
General Manager