



Seirbhís Aisíoca Príomhchúraim  
Bealach amach 5 an M50, Án Bóthar Thuaidh, Fionnghlas, Baile Átha Cliath 11, D11 XKF3  
Guthán: 01 8647100

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

Pa Daly, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2020

PQ: 38572 /20

**To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the requisite qualifications for the role of medical officers hired for the purpose of reviewing an emergency medical card application, with additional information for medical officers reviewing oncology applicants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Pa Daly**

Dear Deputy Daly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 38572 /20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The requisite qualifications/experience for a Senior Medical Officer (SMO) post are as follows:

- (a) Be a medical practitioner who is registered other than provisionally or temporarily in the Register of Medical Practitioners for Ireland or is entitled to be so registered.
- (b) Possess a Master's in Public Health / Diploma in Public Health and /or equivalent qualification. Examples would include:
  - (i) MSc in Community Health
  - (ii) Master in Community Child Health (UK)
  - (iii) Membership of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine (Ireland or UK)
  - (iv) Membership of the Irish College of General Practitioners
  - (v) Membership of the Royal College of General Practitioners (UK)
  - (vi) Membership of the Royal College of Physicians (Ireland or UK)
  - (vii) Membership of the Faculty of Paediatrics (Ireland or UK)
  - (viii) Membership of the Faculty of Occupational Health (Ireland or UK)

- (c) Have had, since becoming entitled to full registration, at least five years satisfactory experience in the practice of the medical profession.

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](mailto:Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie)**