



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Office of the National Director of Human Resources
Health Service Executive
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Alan Farrell, T.D.

4th November, 2020

PQ 30941/20: To ask the Minister for Health the provisions being made for student nurses and midwives that will need testing for Covid-19 when moving between hospitals as part of their training; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Alan Farrell

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary questions above which was sent to the HSE for reply.

In the context of COVID-19, and in line with NPHE advice, all Healthcare Workers (HCWs) moving to new posts or moving from one healthcare service to another (including as contract or agency workers) should complete a COVID-19 Healthcare Worker Relocation Self Risk Assessment and may require testing prior to moving. Testing consists of SARS-CoV2 PCR (swabbing).

Additional local arrangements may apply, which require HCWs to be tested in advance of commencing employment as part of the Hospital Group/CHO management of COVID-19 in the workplace.

Student nurses and midwives moving through placements as part of their training should assess their risk and request testing according to this protocol <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/workplace-health-and-wellbeing-unit/covid-19-guidance/covid-19-testing-protocol-for-healthcare-workers-moving-to-a-different-service.pdf>

Student nurses in nursing homes are already included in the existing serial testing programmes

There are plans afoot to introduce serial testing for all HCW in the acute settings and student nurses and midwives on clinical placements will be included in this cohort

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie O'Sullivan".

Marie O'Sullivan
National HR