

Robert Troy TD
Leinster House,
Dublin 2

23rd April 2021

PQ 19012/21 - To ask the Minister for Health if the onus will be on pharmacies to book persons in for vaccinations through their own booking systems and websites and so on or if there will be a central resource where persons are assigned to a particular pharmacy based on their address. -Robert Troy

Deputy Troy,

The HSE has been working closely with the pharmacy sector in recent months, including representatives from Irish Pharmacy Union (IPU) and the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) to enable community pharmacists to join the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

A draft Operating Guidance has been issued together with an expression of interest process to the pharmacy sector to determine those that would be in a position to join the programme. All community pharmacies were invited by HSE PCERS to express an interest in providing COVID-19 vaccines. The returns are currently being reviewed by the PCERS Pharmacy Team.

In addition a technology solution has been developed to enable pharmacists to work with the programme. This and the Operating Guidance are currently being piloted with 15 pharmacies.

The group are meeting on a weekly basis to plan for the rollout to community pharmacy and the implications of the revised vaccine distribution plan.

I trust the above is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



**Geraldine Crowley,
Assistant National Director,
Primary Care Strategy and Planning**

