

Deputy Cronin Dáil Éireann, Leinster House

Dublin 2

29/04/2021

Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Aonad 7A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, Baile Átha Cliath 8 T: 076 695 9991

National Women and Infants Health Programme

Health Service Executive, Unit 7A, The Dargan Building, Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8

T: 076 695 9991

PQ Ref 20951/21 To ask the Minister for Health if new information or clinical presentations are emerging here suggesting that pregnancy does or could put women at particular or greater risk of serious complications or severe illness from Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cronin

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Pregnant women are no more likely to be diagnosed with Covid-19 in comparison to non-pregnant women. However if they are diagnosed with Covid-19, they are slightly more likely to have serious complications than non-pregnant women.

This is unlike the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, which affected pregnant women disproportionally. In Ireland to date, no pregnant women have died of Covid-19.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

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Yours sincerely,

Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme

