



Office of the Workstream Lead, Vaccination Process & Workforce.
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Oifig Cheannasaí an tSruitha Oibre, Próiseas Vacsaínithe & Lucht
Saothair
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Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, Nás, Cill Dara, W91KDC2

4TH August, 2021

Deputy Cullinane,
Kildare Street,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 21161/21

– “To ask the Minister for Health the way in which persons aged 60 to 69 who would find it difficult to attend a mass vaccination centre such as a person with stage-4 COPD who must carry an oxygen tank will be vaccinated; if they will be vaccinated by a general practitioner or the National Ambulance Service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position

The pathway for vaccinations of those over 16 who are housebound opened to referrals on 26 July 2021. An individual is housebound if they are unable to leave their home at all, or if they require significant assistance to leave the house due to illness, frailty, surgery, disability, mental ill health or nearing end of life (end of life individuals require a GP / specialist palliative care team referral). Individuals who are unable to attend their GP, local Pharmacist, Vaccination Centre (CVC) or acute hospital vaccination clinic for clinical reasons and for whom this difficulty with attendance cannot be resolved by providing transport may be referred to this pathway. Referrals will only be accepted once this criterion is met and verified by referring clinicians.

Referrals can be submitted to the regional CHO Vaccination Team/Home Vaccination Team by the following:

- General Practitioner
- Residential Care Facility Person in Charge
- Nominated CHO lead for the CHO Primary Care Service
- Nominated CHO lead for the CHO Disability Service
- Nominated CHO lead for the CHO Mental Health Service
- Nominated CHO lead for the CHO Older Persons Service
- Person in Charge in Long Term Residential Care Facilities in the CHO area.

Once the individual's details have been submitted they will be contacted by the vaccination team regarding their appointment.

Should an individual choose to attend a vaccine appointment at a mass vaccination clinic, there are staff on hand to help and offer support to those with difficulties. There are wheelchairs available for those with limited mobility. I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

David Walsh
Workstream Lead Vaccination Process and Workforce