

23rd Dec. 2021

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Issued via email to: david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

PQ Number: 62235/21

Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of Covid-19 vaccines that have had to be disposed of due to the fact they were unused and went out of date; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

As requested please see the below data on vaccines returned to the National Cold Chain Service for disposal:

Month	Quantity				
	AZ COVID19 VACC VIAL 0.5ML 10 X 10	COMIRNATY COVID19 VAC VIAL 0.3ML 6-1	JANSSEN COVID19 VAC VIAL 0.5ML 5X10	JANSSEN COVID19 VAC VIAL(IDT) 0.5ML 5x20	MODERNA COVID19 VAC VIAL 0.5ML 10 X 10
March 2021	-	-22	-	-	-
April 2021	-	-	-	-	-
May 2021	-	-11	-	-	-
June 2021	-	-51	-	-	-
July 2021	-	0	-	-	-
August 2021	-939	-304	-700	-121	-77
September 2021	-985	-755	-896	-1	-60
October 2021	-34	-716	-17	-4	-19
November 2021	-81	-510	-20	-7	-2
December 2021	-119	-800	-5	-1	-8
Total Vials by Vaccine	-2158	-3169	-1638	-134	-166
Total Vials	-7265				

Data as of 23/12/2021

As we move through the vaccination programme, it is inevitable that the unpredictably of demand will increase. Notwithstanding, the distribution of vaccine to all vaccine administration sites is done on the basis of robust pharmaceutical inventory management principles including FEFO (first expire/first out) to ensure that stock turn is maximised and the risk of expiry minimised to the greatest extent possible.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Damien McCallion
National Director
National Lead Test & Trace and Vaccination Programme