



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Paul Kehoe

Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Email:

Date: 10th March 2021

PQ 10055-21 To ask the Minister for Health the process to receive the vaccine for persons that are eligible but are medically housebound and unable to attend a general practitioner surgery or vaccination centre for health reasons; if this process has been communicated to general practitioners and public health nurses; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kehoe

Thank you for your representation. The HSE is fully committed to ensuring all over 70's patients gain access to the COVID-19 vaccine as required. Existing "Community Call" transport arrangements will continue to ensure members of the over 70's cohort (commencing with the > 85 sub-cohort) who require support can attend their GP practice to receive the vaccine when scheduled.

There are a small number of older people who, due to illness or frailty, are housebound and cannot avail of the existing 'community call' arrangements to attend the GP practice. The HSE is putting in place a standardised approach to ensure that arrangements are in place to ensure that those patients over 70 and are housebound receive the vaccine. The HSE on the 4th March issued correspondence to GPs asking them to identify those who are housebound so that arrangements can be made in conjunction with the National Ambulance Service for these people to be vaccinated. I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the CCO