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09th March 2021

Deputy Richmond,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 10547/21: To ask the Minister for Health the measures in place to support women diagnosed with hyperemesis; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Richmond,

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.

Women diagnosed with hyperemesis should contact their primary care physician in the first instance. If considered necessary a referral to a maternity hospital is appropriate. Following assessment the woman may be admitted for intravenous fluid administration and on occasion intravenous vitamin administration. Occasionally drug therapy to control vomiting might be indicated. Any drug therapy prescribed in early pregnancy must be weighed against potential harm and potential benefits.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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