

8th February 2021

Deputy Michael Collins,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ 5332/21

“To ask the Minister for Health if staff at a service (details supplied) will be contacted regarding the Covid-19 vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: Sensational Kids CLG are a social enterprise which provide therapies to children with additional needs in West Cork. They are on the frontline continuing to deliver face to face therapies but unfortunately are not waitlisted to receive the Covid vaccination as they are not part of the HSE. I would greatly appreciate if you had any possible contacts they could speak with to explore options to receive a vaccination in order to provide the safest therapy possible and if you could also tell me where they specifically stand at present on the list to receive the vaccination.

Dear Deputy Collins,

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.

Now that there is a safe and effective vaccine available we are aware that most people are keen to get vaccinated as quickly as possible. Currently the key constraint is that there is only a limited amount of vaccine available so it is not possible to reach everyone as quickly as we would like. Given that limitation the Government published a national list of Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups on December 8th. This list is available at the following link. <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/39038-provisional-vaccine-allocation-groups/>. This guidance is summarised in the table below. Although any grouping or list has limitations and cannot take account of each individual workplace/person, the HSE must adhere to this Government policy in rolling out the vaccination programme. Based on the information in your correspondence I understand the Sensational Kids CLG are likely to be included in the Government allocation group **2**. The HSE is doing everything that it can to reach everyone as quickly as possible and I hope that the vaccination of – **Sensational Kids CLG** will progress swiftly in line with the Government’s Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups.

Group	Provisional vaccine allocation groups
1	People aged 65 years and older who are residents of long-term care facilities (likely to include all staff and residents on site)
2	Frontline healthcare workers
3	People aged 70 and older
4	Other healthcare workers not in direct patient contact
5	People aged 65-69
6	Key workers
7	People aged 18-64 with certain medical conditions

8	Residents of long-term care facilities aged 18-64
9	People aged 18-64 living or working in crowded settings
10	Key workers in essential jobs who cannot avoid a high risk of exposure
11	People working in education sector
12	People aged 55-64
13	Other workers in occupations important to the functioning of society
14	Other people aged 18-54
15	People aged under 18 and pregnant women

I trust this information is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Priscilla Lynch', written in a cursive style.

Priscilla Lynch