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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Holly Cairns TD

Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2 Email:

Date: 21 January 2021

PQ 2388/21 (24): To ask the Minister for Health if Covid-19 vaccines were administered to HSE administrators and managers who do not have direct contact with patients ahead of frontline healthcare workers; if so, the number; the rationale for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cairns

Thank you for your representation. 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. The HSEs programme for the administration of the vaccines is aligned with the priority groups published by Government; a national list of Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups. This list is available at the following link. https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/39038-provisional-vaccine-allocation-groups/ published on December the 8th 2020,

We are aware of a small number of incidences where, in order to ensure no wastage, that the vaccine was administered to people in groups further down the vaccine allocation grouping. All vaccine administration sites are required to have standby lists of frontline healthcare workers later in the sequence to ensure that staff are available at short notice in the event that frontline healthcare workers earlier in the sequence order are not able to attend or could not receive the vaccine. Guidance documents have been issued to hospital groups and the community to this effect,

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden General Manager Office of the CCO