



21st January, 2021

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd,
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 2694/21

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

I am pleased to enclose the response to your PQ raised below:

“To ask the Minister for Health the procedure for vaccination plans within nursing homes and residential settings in which the facility has a positive Covid-19 case or cases in its staff and or residents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. (Ref PQ 2694/20) “

Vaccination in Nursing Homes and Residential Settings can proceed even during an outbreak or where there have been identified positive cases of Covid-19. In such scenarios vaccines are not administered to individuals who have a covid-19 positive diagnosis. There must be a minimum of 4 weeks between a positive Covid-19 diagnosis/onset of symptoms and administration of the vaccine.

Those who cannot be vaccinated at a vaccine session due to a positive Covid-19 diagnosis will be captured in subsequent mop-up clinics. In incidences where there are positive Covid-19 cases risk assessments are carried out by vaccination teams. At all times all appropriate IPC guidelines are followed, and IPC precautions may be increased in line with risk assessment protocols as appropriate.”

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Siobhán McArdle'.

Siobhán McArdle
Assistant National Director, Covid Operations