



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,  
Health & Well Being  
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare,  
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21<sup>st</sup> January, 2021

**Deputy Cathal Crowe TD,  
4 Francis Street  
Ennis  
Co. Clare**

**RE: PQ 3946/21**

*To ask the Minister for Health if clarification will be provided on the vaccination plans for mental health nurses and general staff in the mental health services in CHO3, especially County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

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**Dear Deputy Crowe,**

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.

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 8<sup>th</sup>. 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.

The vaccination programme has commenced rolling out across the Mid-West area and the scheduling for same is decided at National level. At a local level we are informed of the schedule for our area and we then receive the exact amount of vaccine for that particular centre. The prioritisation and scheduling is under constant review and as soon as there is any further information available regarding the roll out for mental health services in Co Clare they will be notified in advance.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

  

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**Anne Ryan**  
**Head of Service,**  
**HSE Mid West Community Healthcare**

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