



18th March, 2021

Neale Richmond, T.D.
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 13190/21

To ask the Minister for Health the remuneration for pharmacists working in mass vaccination centres; if the method of their recruitment has an impact on their remuneration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neale Richmond

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Statutory Instruments (SI No 698 of 2020 and SI No. 81 of 2021) lists the cohort of health care professionals who can legally administer the vaccine with the required specific training, namely:

- Medical practitioners
- A registered nurse (including a registered midwife)
- A registered pharmacist
- An advanced paramedic
- A paramedic
- An emergency medical technician
- A physiotherapist registered in the register of the Physiotherapists Registration Board
- A registered optometrist
- A registered dentist.

The HSE can only recruit vaccinators from disciplines approved by the Department of Health.

A job specification and associated pay-scale for the new Vaccinator role was developed and sanctioned by the Department of Health. The salary scale for a Vaccinator in any vaccination clinic, which is reflective of the duties and responsibilities of the Vaccinator role, is outlined as follows:

€35,000-€38,500-€40,000-€41,500-€43,000-€44,500-€46,000-€47,500-€49,000-€50,500

Regardless of professional discipline, all new vaccinators selected to work in a vaccination clinic will be appointed into the Vaccinator role and will be paid as a Vaccinator in line with the salary scale above. The role of Vaccinator is very specific to the duties of administering vaccinations and does not include the wider duties and responsibilities typically associated with those professions listed in the Statutory Instrument above.

A National Campaign was launched on Thursday 18th February to source new Vaccinators from outside the health services for the national roll-out of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. This national campaign will primarily focus on the supply of services to vaccination clinics. The recruitment link is as follows: <https://hbsrecruitmentservices.ie/vaccinators/>.

In conjunction with the establishment of HSE vaccination clinics, local GPs and community pharmacists will assist in the roll out of the national COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Government



has agreed the terms and conditions of this element of the scheme with the representative bodies for both parties. Details of this deal fall out of the scope of the National Campaign noted above.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frances McNamara', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Frances McNamara
Assistant National Director,
Office of the Chief Operations Officer