



Rose Conway-Walsh TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

16th March 2021

PQ 13446/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the status of the establishment of the community operations programme for families of children affected by sodium valproate; if funding is currently in place to ensure that the programme is made fully operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Rose Conway-Walsh”

Dear Deputy Conway-Walsh,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 13446/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The response to the foetal valproate pathway provided funding for an additional 5.8 whole time equivalent posts to support the epilepsy programme, the paediatric referral pathway, and the diagnostic pathway to clinical genetics in Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin. Once a diagnosis of foetal valproate is received they then have direct access to the community pathway for appropriate assessment, care and intervention as required by the relevant healthcare professional in the community.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

TJ Dunford
Head of Operations; Primary Care.
Community Operations.