



25th March, 2021

Deputy Violet-Anne Wynne,
Kildare Street,
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 15139/21

PQ 15139/21– “To ask the Minister for Health the reason an 80 year old patient who is in hospital must attend an appointment with the general practitioner for vaccination; the reason patients over 80 years of age cannot receive the vaccination in the hospital whilst being treated; if the hospital is obliged to arrange transport for the patient to and from the general practitioner surgery to receive the vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Wynne,

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

The HSE is conscious of the needs of those persons over the age of 70 in Acute hospitals and a programme has been developed to ensure their vaccination is carried out during the course of their inpatient stay. This programme commenced on the 8th of March in a limited number of sites and was extended to 22 acute hospital sites on the week commencing March 15th. Plans for week commencing March 22nd included coverage across all hospital groups. Inpatients over 70 will not be required to travel to the GP to receive their vaccination and will receive it in the hospital during the course of their inpatient stay.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Walsh'.

David Walsh
Workstream Lead Vaccination Process and Workforce