



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohifigeach Cliniciúil
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Deputy Christopher O'Sullivan, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 15868/21

To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken to ensure immunocompromised persons and persons with chronic lung diseases are not refused regular treatments until they receive the Covid-19 vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Respiratory on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

To the best knowledge of The National Clinical Programme for Respiratory, no patients with chronic lung disease are being denied regular treatment until after they receive the vaccine. Certain individual patients may have decided to defer treatment until after they are vaccinated, but this is not routinely being advised. In addition, patients are being screened and, for certain procedures and in some centres, are being swabbed for COVID-19 prior to attendance. However, these patients are not routinely being denied therapy pending their vaccine.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager