

Gino Kenny TD  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

26th March 2021

**REPDR/21/16890 - To ask the Minister for Health the criteria the HSE used when distributing vaccines to general practitioner clinics to decide which clinics received the vaccine first; and if it was alphabetical or based on other criteria. -Gino Kenny**

Deputy Kenny,

Thank you for your correspondence in relation to distributing vaccines.

The core principle of the programme is to ensure that the oldest and most vulnerable are vaccinated first in line with the age cohorts as set out by NIAC in line with available supply. The approach to vaccination of Cohort 3 is on a sequential basis i.e. to work through each of the age groups within the Cohort in a phased manner. To streamline the process of confirming the amount of vaccine to be delivered to vaccination sites, HSE operate a “push” approach for vaccine distribution to General Practice.

HSE allocate available vaccine supply across GP vaccination sites, according to a set of principles set out below. The baseline used is the registered number of patients with Primary Care Reimbursement Service Any adjustments for private patients is managed on an individual basis with each GP practice Relationship Manager.

The following allocation principles apply

- Allocations are driven by availability of vaccine supply
- Vaccine supply adheres to a fair and equitable distribution
- All Dose 2 Pfizer vaccine requirements will be met each week and are guaranteed
- All other Pfizer vaccine available in a given week, will be used for Dose 1s for the GPs receiving deliveries that week
- GPs receive vaccines in a standard pack size ranging from small, medium, large and extra large. Typically, the number of vials in each pack are 5 vials (30 doses), 10 vials (60 doses), 15 vials (90 doses) and 20 vials (120 doses) for small, medium, large and extra large packs, respectively
- The size of these packs for delivery each week will vary (increase or decrease) based on the number of confirmed available doses available for that week
- Pack sizes are allocated based on the forecast number of patients in the age cohorts that are due vaccinations

I appreciate the time you have taken to make contact with the HSE.

Yours sincerely,

**Yours sincerely,**



**Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Primary Care Strategy and Planning**

