

14th September, 2021

Mr David Cullinane, T.D., Dáil Eireann, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: 43135/21

PQ 43135/21 - "To ask the Minister for Health the supports and safeguards that have been provided for vaccinators that do not have a professional indemnity insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

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.

Healthcare professionals and clinical students approved by the Department of Health in the Statutory Instruments (SI No 698 of 2020, SI No. 81 of 2021 and SI No. 245 of 2021) and sourced by the HSE from a recruitment company or otherwise, in receipt of and adhering to relevant training with regard to the administration of the COVID-19 vaccines and acting on the direction of, or on behalf of the HSE, are indemnified with regard to any adverse events arising from or related to the vaccines or their administration of the vaccines. The HSE only recruits and indemnifies Vaccinators from those Department of Health disciplines approved.

Professional indemnity relates to a Vaccinator's substantive role, i.e. the role they had before becoming a Vaccinator, not in their new roles as Vaccinator, therefore, there are no risks for Vaccinators that do not have professional indemnity insurance.

Yours sincerely,

Frances McNamara

Assistant National Director,
Office of the Chief Operations Officer