



Príomhoifigeach Cliniciúil
Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

Ospidéal Dr Steevens, Lána Steevens
Baile Átha Cliath 8 , D08 W2A8

Chief Clinical Officer
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer

Dr Steevens Hospital, Steevens Lane
Dublin 8, D08 W2A8

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 01 635 2000
e cco@hse.ie

BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

17th February 2022

PQ 6837-22 Deputy Louise O'Reilly-To ask the Minister for Health the details of the membership of the National Therapeutics Advisory Group that has been established by the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

Thank you for your representation. The COVID-19 therapeutics preparedness planning programme commenced in late 2021 in anticipation of effective treatments becoming available in Ireland in 2022. The programme established a therapeutics advisory group co-chaired by two co-leads of the HSE's National Infectious Diseases Programme, and they report to the Chief Clinical Officer. The membership of the advisory group consists of lead clinical experts from across the HSE.

The purpose of the advisory group is to provide clinical advice and recommendations in the use of all existing and emerging approved COVID-19 therapeutic medications. The advisory group considered cohorts which may be eligible and suitable to receive the new treatments. Owing to the increased likelihood for people with underlying illness to experience severe COVID-19, the advisory group has developed a prioritisation framework and clinical guidelines to aid decision-making around the prescribing of novel COVID-19 therapeutics. The prioritisation framework includes considerations of equity and ethics, and outlines that those who are at high-risk or very high-risk of experiencing severe COVID-19 symptoms, hospitalisation, or ICU support, should be prioritised.

I hope this provides you with assistance.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the CCO