



Príomhoifigeach Cliniciúil
Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
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18th February 2022

PQ 6838-22 Deputy Louise O'Reilly-To ask the Minister for Health the details of the membership of the Therapeutics Operational Group that has been established by the HSE; the way that this group will identify vulnerable patient cohorts; if the group will liaise with clinical leads; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

Thank you for your representation. The COVID-19 Therapeutics Implementation Preparedness Programme commenced in late 2021 with the establishment of a Therapeutics Implementation Working Group. The programme also established a Clinical advisory group, the Therapeutics Advisory Group which is jointly led by two members of the HSE's National Infectious Diseases advisory group.

The Therapeutics Implementation Working Group is chaired by the Chief Clinical Officer and membership includes representation from Clinicians, HSE Procurement, Communications, Information Technology, and both Acute and Community Operations.

The Clinical Advisory Group, consisting of clinical experts from across the HSE, considered all patient cohorts which may be eligible to receive new COVID-19 treatments. The Advisory Group has developed a prioritisation framework and clinical guidelines to aid decision-making for prescribing of novel COVID-19 therapeutics. Guidance includes considerations of equity and ethics, and advises 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