



Róisín Shortall, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

8th March 2022

PQ: 9790/22

To ask the Minister for Health if the three-year grace period for a holder of an over 70s medical card following the death of their spouse remains in place; if he can ensure that this information is explicitly stated on the HSE website and information leaflets and not just in the guidance documents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 9790/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The National Assessment Guidelines for persons aged 70 years or older provide for the retention of eligibility, for a maximum of 3 years, in the event of the death of a spouse or partner, subject to certain conditions. Details relating to the retention of eligibility is contained on the second page of the Over 70 Application form. The form can be found on the HSE website at <https://www2.hse.ie/services/medical-cards/medical-card-for-over-70s.html>

Applicants can also contact the National Medical Card helpline for further assistance on 0818 224 478.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Suzanne Doyle'.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service