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Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Clínicíúil
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens|Baile Átha Cliath 8|D08 W2A8

BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Colm Burke / Jim O'Callaghan
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

19th January 2022

PQ 1252/22- Deputy Colm Burke / Jim O'Callaghan- To ask the Minister for Health when antiviral drugs to treat COVID-19 are likely to be made available to persons here given the announcement that the government has agreed to spend 90 million on such drugs; the category of person who will be entitled to receive same; the assessment process that will be put in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Burke / Deputy O'Callaghan,

The CCO has established a COVID-19 Therapeutics Implementation Working Group who are in the process of engaging with suppliers to expedite the process of procuring the novel therapeutics in question. This group is working closely with the Therapeutics Advisory Group to prepare categorisations under which Very High and High Risk patients would be prioritised to receive novel therapeutics once they become available and should the patient test positive for COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Therapeutics Implementation Working Group are also working to finalise the appropriate pathways and clinical guidance to support the prescribing and administration of the new treatments.

This work will ensure timely and equitable access to novel therapeutics by those patients that require them most when supplies do become available.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the CCO