



Office of the National Director of Procurement  
Health Service Executive  
Dr. Steevens' Hospital  
Dublin 8  
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Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Soláthair  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
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Deputy Michael McNamara,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

27/01/2022

## RE PQ 1279/22

### Question

To ask the Minister for Health the procurement agreement in place for the acquisition of antigen tests; if consideration will be given to issuing a tender to Irish companies for the supply of EU-approved antigen tests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Michael McNamara

### Response

Deputy Michael McNamara,

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

The HSE has purchased antigen test kits (self-tests) from an EU Joint Procurement agreement (JPA) for much of 2021. Ireland was allocated an initial 1.25 million tests from this agreement, and this has been increased at the HSE's request on four separate occasions throughout 2021.

This total allocation of 20.714 million tests more than met the HSE's demand for antigen tests until recently, when the weekly volumes increased by over 500% in two months.

Negotiations have taken place over the last fortnight with potential Suppliers to ensure ongoing supply, and now that the allocation has been exceeded it is intended to conduct a tender for antigen tests in the near future.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Head of Procurement on (01) 635 2688 or via [ohop@hse.ie](mailto:ohop@hse.ie).

Yours sincerely,

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