



20th Jan. 2022

Deputy Paul Murphy,
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Issued via email to: paul.murphy@oireachtas.ie

PQ Number: 1666/22

Question: To ask the Minister for Health when a booster vaccine (details supplied) will be made available to persons who are medically vulnerable who had a myocarditis and pericarditis reaction to an mRNA vaccine, who are following the advice of a medical professional not to receive an mRNA booster and are currently on a waiting list for the booster.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

The policy regarding the roll out of the booster doses of Covid-19 vaccine is determined by the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) and the Department of Health.

As recommended by NIAC, currently the only vaccine type recommended for booster in Ireland is an mRNA vaccine, either Comirnaty (Pfizer) or Spikevax (Moderna), for all authorised age groups who have completed their primary course with any vaccine type. This is with an exception for those cases where the mRNA vaccine is not recommended due to medical reasons.

Currently the only vaccine available for these patients is Covid-19 vaccine Janssen. Anyone requiring such an arrangement can contact HSELive (tel: 1800 700 700) and request an appointment. Currently there are fewer than 10 people awaiting an appointment for a Janssen booster dose as per our records.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Damien McCallion
National Director
National Lead Test & Trace and Vaccination Programme