



Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Aonad 7A, Áras
Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, Baile Átha Cliath 8
T: 076 695 9991

National Women and Infants Health Programme
Health Service Executive, Unit 7A, The Dargan Building,
Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8
T: 076 695 9991

26th January 2022

Deputy Ward,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 63379/21: To ask the Minister for Health the services that are in place for adults and children who have received a diagnosed with foetal alcohol spectrum disorder; if there are plans to further develop these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive 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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

This Parliamentary Questions is closely related to your previous four Parliamentary Questions which we responded to on the 18th November 2021. They are concerned with the diagnosis, management, and services available for cases of fetal alcohol syndrome. The previous response set out a high level outline of how this condition is managed currently.

The emphasis into the future will be on antenatal education and prevention, with all expectant mothers being actively encouraged to attend their antenatal education classes. Social workers will continue to play an important role for the care of pregnant women with addiction issues.

As such, the HSE and its maternity services continue to concentrate on the promotion of alcohol avoidance during pregnancy.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary-Jo Biggs'.

Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme