



Rannán na nOspidéal Ghéarmhíochaine
Aonad 1A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar Míleata
Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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Deputy Colm Burke
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

17th January 2022

PQ 63622/21: To ask the Minister for Health the current procedures in place for all that is to be carried out in respect of the purchase and use of pharmaceuticals within each of the hospitals in the HSE; if comparisons have been made in order to determine areas in which deductions can be achieved by better stock control of these items; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Burke,

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.

Response:

The vision of HSE strategy for the procurement of medicines in acute and non-acute hospitals is “for the purchase and supply of medicines within the Acute & non-Acute Hospitals is clinically led to ensure a healthy market where products of good quality are available at affordable and transparent prices on a sustainable and timely basis.”

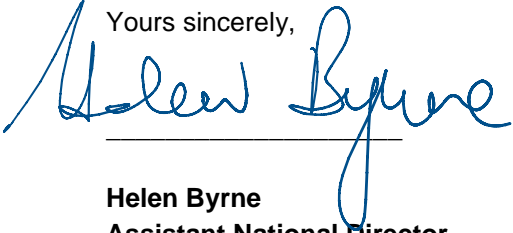
Ultimately, the Hospital Group CEO or designate (e.g. Hospital Chief Pharmacist) in each hospital is responsible for the procurement of medicines at the level of his or her individual hospital. The objective of the strategy is to ensure the continued clinical pharmacy leadership and expert input by hospital pharmacists in the procurement of medicines supported by colleagues in finance, procurement and relevant clinical areas.

Since the strategy was launched in 2019, new procurement processes have been introduced. The strategic approach of the new procurement processes is to ensure the procurement of medicines continues to be clinical led by pharmacist staff and to provide and deliver commercially effective legislatively compliant processes by Acute & non-Acute Hospitals.

The HSE strategy for the procurement of medicines in acute and non-acute hospitals is available at:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/national-drugs-management-programme/procurement-of-medicines-strategy-document.pdf>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Helen Byrne', written over a horizontal line.

Helen Byrne
Assistant National Director
Acute Operations