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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Deputy David Cullinane  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
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30<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**PQ 14899/22 Deputy David Cullinane- To ask the Minister for Health his plans to make Paxlovid available to high-risk patients including blood cancer patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

Thank you for your representation.

Paxlovid will be made available to high-risk patients as the supply is delivered to Ireland. A Prioritisation Framework exists to guide medical practitioners in relation to patient eligibility for novel COVID-19 therapeutics, and the Therapeutics Advisory Group are currently updating this framework to include Paxlovid.

Sotrovimab is available in all hospitals in Ireland for all eligible high-risk patients who test positive for COVID-19. This includes immunocompromised patients. When a patient tests positive, their GP can refer them to a hospital for consideration of eligibility. The hospital clinical team will make a decision based on a set of clinical guidelines and the prioritisation framework in relation to the prescribing of the drug for the patient.

I hope this provides you with some assistance.

Yours sincerely

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Sharon Hayden  
Office of the CCO