



15 September 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
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Our Ref: GM/Communications

PQ42167.22: To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied) in relation to colon cancer detection; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details Supplied: As I understand it people over the age of sixty are supposed to receive testing kits in the post, related to colon cancer detection. My wife and myself being well past our sixtieth birthdays at this point, not having received any kits. My brother-in-law who emigrated to Australia well over thirty years ago, received a kit to his old Irish home address, even though he's no longer resident here. I'd like to know what's the delay in getting those testing kit's out to people like my wife myself, and others in our age bracket?

Dear Deputy

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question.

BowelScreen – The National Bowel Screening Programme, is one of the National Screening Service's three cancer-screening programmes. The programme offers free bowel screening to eligible people aged 60 to 69 years.

To participate in BowelScreen, you must be on the BowelScreen register. This register maintains an active list of people within the eligible age range for screening, supplied by the Department of Social Protection. The register also contains details supplied by people who register with the programme directly.

Once you become eligible for bowel screening and your details are on the BowelScreen register, we will contact you to invite you to take part in screening. If you consent to take part in screening, we will post a FIT (faecal immunochemical test) kit to your home, which you complete and return to us.

To help us to understand why the couple in question have yet to be invited for bowel screening we would ask that they contact us, so we can check their details are recorded on our register.





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National Screening Service

They can do this by:

1. Calling us using the BowelScreen Freephone number 1800 45 45 55
2. Emailing BowelScreen, with their details, to info@bowelscreen.ie

Alternatively, they can check their own details on the BowelScreen website at www.bowelscreen.ie, or by clicking [here](#).

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please contact me.

Fiona Murphy
Chief Executive
National Screening Service

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