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09th May 2023

Deputy Murphy
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 19721/23: To ask the Minister for Health the way in which a woman can access antenatal care in instances in which they do not have access to a general practitioner to confirm their pregnancy.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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.

Every woman who is pregnant and ordinarily resident in Ireland is entitled to maternity care under the Maternity and Infant Scheme. Ireland provides very high quality Maternity care, to both mothers and infants.

In circumstances whereby a woman does not have access to a General Practitioner to confirm the pregnancy, all maternity units are positioned to provide care.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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