



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

15th February 2023

Deputy Ryan,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ REF 6556/23: To ask the Minister for Health the options open to pregnant women experiencing extreme nausea and vomiting in the first trimester given the fact that they are unlikely to have a consultant appointment until the end of this period; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ryan,

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.

Women experiencing extreme nausea and vomiting in the first trimester should contact their primary care physician in the first instance. If considered necessary a referral to a maternity hospital is appropriate. Following assessment the woman may be admitted for intravenous fluid administration and on occasion intravenous vitamin administration. Occasionally drug therapy to control vomiting might be indicated. Any drug therapy prescribed in early pregnancy must be weighed against potential harm and potential benefits.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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