



Peadar Tóibín, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

20th February 2023

PQ: 6650/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he will list the drugs and medications which are currently in short supply in the State; the public relations and communication practices adopted by the HSE at times when drug and medicine supplies run low or end; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Peadar Tóibín

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 6650/23), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) is responsible for co-ordinating the management of shortages of medicines on the Irish market. The HPRA has an existing Medicine Shortages Framework in place to help prevent shortages from occurring and to reduce the impact of shortages on patients by coordinating the management of potential or actual shortages as they arise. Available at <http://www.hpra.ie/homepage/about-us/publications-forms/guidance-documents/item?id=c81f0b26-9782-6eee-9b55-ff00008c97d0&t=/docs/default-source/publications-forms/guidance-documents/adv-g0020-medicines-shortages-framework-v2>.

The HPRA works with a variety of stakeholders including the HSE to respond to potential shortages and reduce the impact of shortages on patients. The role and processes the HSE follows are set out in HPRA published Medicinal Products Shortage Framework. The HPRA also maintains a list of shortages publically available at <https://www.hpra.ie/homepage/medicines/medicines-information/medicines-shortages>.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Doyle'.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service