



**Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúraim Príomhúil**  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall  
Liatroim Muineachán, Sligeach  
An Clochar, Sráid an Choláiste, Béal Átha  
Seanaidh, Co Dhun na nGall, F94 TPX4

**Head of Service, Primary Care**  
Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal  
Leitrim Monaghan Sligo  
HSE, An Clochar, College Street,  
Ballyshannon, Co Donegal, F94 TPX4

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) @hselive

t: 071 9834627 | 071 9834637

e: HOSPC.CHO1@hse.ie

28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

Deputy Pearse Doherty  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 7714 23 - To ask the Minister for Health when the option will be available in County Donegal to administer IV antibiotic therapy in the home setting; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Doherty

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 for Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo.

In Co. Donegal, the option to administer IV antibiotic therapy in the home setting is currently being developed as part of a joint initiative between Donegal Primary Care Services and Letterkenny University Hospital (LUH).

The Community Intervention Team (CIT) Nurses are at present completing training in Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy (OPAT), this competency-based training will ensure CIT Nurses have the proficiency in administering IV antibiotics and the clinical governance structure in place for this task. Policies and procedures are also being finalised to ensure a safe, evidence-based OPAT service is developed and delivered to meet the needs of patients throughout Co. Donegal.

A new CIT Coordinator post to be based in LUH is currently at the recruitment stage. Once in post the CIT coordinator will signpost patients to the CIT service and act as liaison between Primary Care, Community CIT, and Acute Services. The commencement date to deliver IV antibiotic treatment in the home or clinic setting will be finalised once the CIT coordinator is in post.

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely

**Mandy Doyle**  
**Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil**  
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