



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682
E: community.primarycare@hse.ie

24th January, 2023

Deputy Burke,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 63669/22 – To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE universal guidelines on bras, prostheses and wigs will be published; the funding to be allocated for the implementation of the guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Colm Burke

Dear Deputy Burke,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the above question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The work on the development of national guidelines in respect of wigs/hairpieces and post-mastectomy products is at an advanced stage. The guidelines for post-mastectomy products are expected to be completed and adopted by the end of March 2023. The second quarter of 2023 should see the roll-out and implementation of these guidelines in the local health areas.

The guidelines in respect of wigs/hairpieces are also at an advanced stage. The recent decision to incorporate these items into the Treatment Benefit Scheme operated by the Department of Social Protection has implications for the procedures envisaged in these guidelines. These procedures now require further discussions with the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Health before they can be finalised. In light of this, it is not possible at this juncture to provide an exact date for when they will be adopted, but at present we are working to have them completed and adopted before the end of June 2023.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations