



1<sup>st</sup> April, 2025

Deputy John Lahart, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 15080/25**

To ask the Minister for Health on the progress of the 0.2 WTE pulmonary fibrosis clinical care pathway lead role that was originally committed to by the HSE in April 2023, but remains unstaffed; and if she will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Lahart,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question(s), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Director for Integrated Care (NCD IC) on your questions and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

Interstitial lung disease (ILD) includes diseases such as Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF), characterised by progressively worsening respiratory function and high mortality. The HSE's National Clinical Director for Integrated Care has requested a scoping exercise be undertaken to review the evidence and assess the needs of the population living with pulmonary fibrosis/interstitial lung disease (ILD) and to determine how and where best their care provision needs are met.

Once the needs of this population are determined, the next step in the process will be to identify the resources required to design and develop a work programme, to address and meet these needs, and to identify the requirements needed to implement a suitable care pathway for this patient cohort.

This will be determined in tandem with making the best use of existing and planned resources in the acute and community settings to support this cohort of service users.

I can confirm that interviews have taken place and the appointment process has begun for the Clinical Advisor for Interstitial lung disease (ILD).

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

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**Anne Horgan**  
**General Manager**