



30 June 2025

Deputy Duncan Smith, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 32934/25

To ask the Minister for Health to outline her Department's plans for the delivery of a care strategy for those with lung fibrosis; and if she will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Director for Integrated Care and National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead for Chronic Disease (NCAGL CD) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

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) 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 a Clinical Advisor and Programme Manager have now commenced in post to support the National Clinical Programme (NCP) Respiratory to scope out the evidence and health needs of individuals living with interstitial lung disease (ILD). Work has begun on the scoping exercise to review the evidence and assess the needs of the population living with pulmonary fibrosis/ILD and to determine how and where best their care delivery needs are met.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager