



Oifig an Stiúrthoir Cúnta,
Cúram Priomhúil Rochtain agus Comhthathú,
Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
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29th May 2025

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

PQ 24973/25 To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2211 of 29 April 2025, if a timeline or target exists for the provision of intravitreal injections for macular degeneration in a community setting; the specific steps which have been taken to date in actioning this recommendation from the 2018 Eye Services Review; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

- Claire Kerrane

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 24973/25) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Significant investment has gone into developing ophthalmology services in the community. New Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist posts have been established together with new optometry & orthoptic posts supported by nursing and administration. Ophthalmic technicians are also being recruited and trained. New facilities have also been developed.

The priorities for the integrated eye care teams have included addressing the previous long wait times for review of children referred from the early childhood and school vision surveillance programmes. Priorities for the adult service include the development of pre and post operative cataract clinics, glaucoma clinics, medical retina clinics with the intention to develop intra vitreal injection treatment clinics in the community for age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

The safe provision of intra vitreal injections in community settings requires a number of elements be provided together as part of a model of care. Delivery requires both clinicians with the competency and expertise to deliver the service, together with a number of specific facility requirements. These include injection clean rooms, appropriate pharmaceutical supports and IT links with the appropriate surgical site so that review of scans can be undertaken as required across sites. The range of enablers required to support the delivery of a safe intra vitreal injection service while progressing has not been established in any community setting yet. The intra vitreal injections service will continue to be carried out in an acute setting while work progresses to establish the service in the community.

As of now, there is no announced date for the commencement of intra vitreal injections in community settings in Ireland.



I trust this is of assistance.

Seán McArt

General Manager

Primary Care Access & Integration