



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Office of the Chief Clinical Officer  
Dr Steevens' Hospital|Steevens' Lane|Dublin 8|D08 W2A8  
email: [cco@hse.ie](mailto:cco@hse.ie)

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil  
Ospidéal Dr Steevens|Lána Steevens|Baile Átha Cliath 8|D08 W2A8

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

**Deputy Mattie McGrath**

Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

23/06/2021

**PQ 20701-21: To ask the Minister for Health if a person who is in the 65 to 69 years of age cohort and is uncomfortable receiving a vaccine (details supplied) can opt out of this cohort and wait until an alternative vaccine comes available at a later date; if a person who chooses not to receive the vaccine will be prohibited from receiving another vaccine at any other stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy McGrath,

Thank you for your representation. As you will be aware the HSE vaccination programme is not mandatory, demand however has exceeded the available supply. It is currently not possible to choose which COVID-19 vaccine to receive and we would strongly advise that people avail of the first vaccine that is offered to protect them from COVID-19 disease as soon as possible. Should a person decide not to accept a vaccine at present they can in the future opt in to the programme.

I hope this provides you with assistance.

Yours faithfully

---

Sharon Hayden  
General Manager  
Office of the CCO