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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Brendan Smith

Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2 Email:

Date: 23 February 2021

PQ 7477-21 (180) To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the request by a union (details supplied) to have access to a vaccine for community pharmacists to enable them to vaccinate front-line health care workers in line with the vaccine programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Smith

Thank you for your representation. There has been an ongoing process of engagement established since the Covid-19 Pandemic commenced, involving senior HSE clinical and management staff with Community Pharmacists involving the Irish Pharmaceutical Union and Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. This has provided the basis for regular communication on the evolving situation with Community Pharmacists and through them their wider pharmacy network.

Community pharmacists will play an important role in the delivery of the vaccination programme in accordance with the agreed National Vaccination schedule. Community Pharmacy will also have a role in the vaccination programme that is extended to the general population.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden General Manager

Office of the CCO