



Príomhoifigeach Cliniciúil
Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

Ospidéal Dr Steevens, Lána Steevens
Baile Átha Cliath 8 , D08 W2A8

Chief Clinical Officer
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer

Dr Steevens Hospital, Steevens Lane
Dublin 8, D08 W2A8

www.hse.ie
@hselive

t 01 635 2000
e cco@hse.ie

BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Naughten
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

30th September 2024

PQ 37354/24- Deputy Naughten To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE will make a decision on the location of the new genomic laboratory; the timelines for when the decision will be finalised; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Naughten,

Thank you for your representation.

The National Strategy for Accelerating Genetic and Genomic Medicine in Ireland acknowledges the need for future genomic laboratory infrastructure to be specifically designed and resourced to accommodate the expected volume of genomic testing and to be future proofed, capable of accommodating innovations in sequencing and analytical technologies and techniques. The HSE's National Genetics and Genomics Office (NGGO) is charged with the Strategy's implementation. As part of the NGGO programme of work a draft strategy implementation plan has been developed that includes a timeline for the steps required to plan and develop a National Genomic Medicine Centre. In regard to provision of a National Genomic Medicine Centre, the NGGO has proposed Quarter 1 2026 as the timeline for completion of a process to determine a suitable location. On completion of this process, the HSE will provide advice to the Department of Health on a recommendation for the location of the National Genomic Medicine Centre.

Good clinical practice in genetic and genomic testing involves not only a laboratory testing component but also up- and down-stream services including information provision, genetic counselling, multidisciplinary interpretation of test results, and clinical decision making. The NGGO continues to plan and implement the areas of this strategy that will achieve a fit for purpose genomic medicine service inclusive of new genomic laboratory infrastructure. This will maximise the patient benefit of new infrastructure.]

I hope this provides you with some assistance.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer