## Office of the Chief Clinical Officer

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## **BY EMAIL ONLY**

**Deputy Róisín Shortall**Dáil Éireann
Leinster House

Kildare Street Dublin 2

Email:

Date: 29 January 2021

PQ3596-21 (99) To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline a clear protocol for use of spare vaccines in the hospitals and vaccination centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**Dear Deputy Shortall** 

Thank you for your question. The key constraint in delivering the vaccine programme to frontline healthcare workers is the fact that there is only a limited amount of vaccine available so it is not possible to reach everyone in the group (group 2). Given that limitation the Government published a national list of Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups on December 8<sup>th</sup>. This list is available at the following link <a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/39038-provisional-vaccine-allocation-groups/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/39038-provisional-vaccine-allocation-groups/</a>.

All vaccine administration sites are required to have standby lists of frontline healthcare workers later in the sequence to ensure that staff are available at short notice in the event that frontline healthcare workers earlier in the sequence order are not able to attend or could not receive the vaccine.

Guidance documents have been issued to hospital groups and the community to this effect in relation to the Sequencing of the vaccination programme for healthcare workers provided in the link below <a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/covid-19-vaccine-materials/sequencing-of-covid-19-vaccination-of-frontline-healthcare-workers">https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/covid-19-vaccine-materials/sequencing-of-covid-19-vaccination-of-frontline-healthcare-workers</a>.

I hope this provides you with assistance,

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden General Manager Office of the CCO