WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY J.M. MAÇON OF ST. SAVIOUR QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 6^{TH} DECEMBER 2021 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 13^{TH} DECEMBER 2021

Question

Will the Minister state what analysis, if any, has been carried out by the department of the use of Ivermectin as –

- (a) a treatment for Covid-19;
- (b) and a preventative measure for Covid-19;

and if no such research has been carried out, will he explain why not?

Answer

We do not have a local research capacity and therefore the Department follows guidance from the UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). Ivermectin is not authorised for use against COVID by the MHRA and we will therefore not be using it.

Ivermectin has been included in the University of Oxford PRINCIPLE trial to determine whether this is a safe and effective treatment for COVID. It is unclear if they are looking at this at present for the purposes of preventing disease.

Ronapreve, a mixture of 2 monoclonal antibodies, is MHRA-authorised and has this week been recommended for use in the community as well as in hospitalised patients. We are in the process of looking at how to best set up the community-based service. A hospital-based service is already in operation.

Molnupiravir is a direct acting antiviral in tablet form active against COVID. It has been authorised for use by the MHRA. We are told that it will be rolled out in two stages initially to test this out in a real life and then more widely. The Crown Dependencies will only receive this agent after the first stage. Other tablet form direct acting agents are in the pipeline.