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Date: March 3, 2022

URL:

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-21/hl6298>

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<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-21/hl6300>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-21/hl6301>

Ref: <http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster>

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Research

Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the services available to people with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME).

To ask Her Majesty's Government what further steps they are taking to develop a national strategy for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME).

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of whether the new National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Guidance for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) is being implemented in accordance with the regulations.

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have plans to provide additional funding for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) research; and if so, when.

Lord Kamall

No specific assessment of the services available to people with myalgic encephalomyelitis and chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) has been made. Clinical commissioning groups are best placed to plan, assess and commission ME/CFS care services. These processes are subject to local prioritisation and funding and should take into account best practice guidance, such as the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence's (NICE) most recent guidelines. Whilst guidelines are not mandatory, clinicians and commissioners are expected to take them fully into account in designing services that meet the needs of their local population and to work towards their implementation over time.

We continue to consider options to improve outcomes for people with ME/CFS and their families, including the potential development of a national strategy. The Government invests in health research through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and the Medical Research Council (MRC). The NIHR and MRC welcome high-quality applications for research into all aspects of ME/CFS. While there are no plans to provide additional funding at this time, both funders are considering how they can support the academic community to drive research in this underserved area.

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[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Long Covid

Vicky Foxcroft

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how many people with long covid have received a diagnosis of (a) myalgic encephalomyelitis or (b) chronic fatigue syndrome.

Maria Caulfield

The information is not available in the format requested.

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<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-23/128371>

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[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Coronavirus

Vicky Foxcroft

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment he has made of the long-term impact of covid-19 on individuals with a diagnosis of (a) myalgic encephalomyelitis or (b) chronic fatigue syndrome.

Gillian Keegan

No specific assessment has been made. The National Institute for Health Research has funded studies to improve the understanding of and address the longer-term effects of COVID-19. Currently there are no published findings on the long term impact of COVID-19 in people with a diagnosis of myalgic encephalomyelitis or chronic fatigue syndrome from these studies.

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[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Employment

Vicky Foxcroft

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how many

people who have received a diagnosis of (a) myalgic encephalomyelitis and (b) chronic fatigue syndrome are currently in employment.

Gillian Keegan

Recent data from the UK Biobank suggests that there are over 250,000 people in England and Wales with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS). Information on the number of people in employment with a diagnosis of ME/CFS is not held centrally.

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