



**Galway
University
Hospitals**

Ospidéal na h-Ollscoile Gaillimh
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GALWAY
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13th April 2018

PQ 14070/18 - To ask the Minister for Health the average time from registration to discharge for all patients presenting at the accident and emergency department in UHG; the average waiting time from registration to discharge for patients presenting with minor injuries at the department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Noel Grealish

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the representation referenced above, the following outlines the situation.

Emergency Department (ED) presentations have increased by 2.34% at the end of 2017 when compared with the same period in 2016 (62,355 ED attendances ytd December 2017) with a similar increase in emergency admissions of 3.17% on same time last year.

Our ED triage patients who present to reception where they are registered, using the national standards; the Manchester Triage system/ Paeds Irish Children's Triage system. Each patient is given a category 1 – 5 indicating when patient should be seen.

After triage all patient with the exception of Resus /paeds patients go through rapid assessment where bloods, diagnostics, ECG's and other testing is carried out. Each patient is then referred to teams Eg Oncology patients, streaming of patients to AMU / ESAU. Sepsis protocol is commenced on patients eg IV Atb's, Iv Fluids commenced.

There is a GP Registrar and an ED Registrar working from this area along with a Candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioner (CANP), Rapid Assessment Phlebotomy Nurse.

Patients that present with a minor Injury are triaged as above then in hours from 8am-8.30pm seven days a week are seen by an Advanced Nurse Practitioner an ED Senior House Officer (SHO) is also present in this area.

Paediatric patients go direct to an identified Paediatric ED space where, if capacity allows can be triaged there (separate access).

Additional bed capacity, winter surge, norovirus etc and the boarding of Patients awaiting beds (746 for month of March 2018) will affects the flow of patients through ED resulting in long waiting times and delays at triaged. This has a direct impact on bed availability for elective activity also.

On review of data between 01/01/2018 to 01/04/2018 the average time from registration to discharge for a patient with **minor injury** was 5hrs.35min.