



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett,  
Príomhoifigeach, Eagraíocht Cúram  
Sláinte Pobail, Lár Tíre, An Lú, An Mhí  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,  
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An  
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12<sup>th</sup> April, 2019

Mr. Fergus O' Dowd T.D.,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: Parliamentary Question – 15565/19**

To ask the Minister for Health the resources being made available in CHO8 for persons suffering from Parkinson's disease; the available resources and the plans to expand services in this area in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

Parkinson's is a designated Long Term Illness; therefore medications and appliances for that condition are free of charge since 1970. Within Services for Older People, persons suffering from Parkinson's disease are eligible to apply for home support, day services and respite. Similar options are available to those aged under 65 years through Disability Service.

No actual information is available on resources dedicated to individuals with chronic conditions. The acute services may be able to furnish you with the numbers diagnosed with Parkinson's. Additional information on resources and support may be available from the Parkinson's Association of Ireland.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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Pat Bennett  
Chief Officer CHO Area 8