



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97, Ireland

12 December 2019

PQ REF 50210/19

Deputy Stephen Donnelly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: TRANSFERRING PATIENTS BY TAXI FROM TEMPLE STREET TO CONNOLLY

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

I refer to your recent PQ 'To ask the Minister for Health the number of child patients that have been transferred by taxi from Temple Street Hospital to Children's Health Ireland at Connolly Hospital since 31 July 2019.

Children's Health Ireland can advise that information for families on the Urgent Care Centre at Connolly Hospital in Blanchardstown is placed strategically in the waiting areas in CHI at Temple Street and in the community surrounding CHI at Connolly to raise awareness of the facility and the services it provides. We can confirm that approximately 50% of children attending came from Dublin 15 area.

November proved to be an extremely busy month for all of the children's Emergency Departments and Temple Street had an unprecedented number of children attending. It was agreed to pilot a transport initiative to offer families from the waiting room in Temple Street the option, where the waiting time was up to 5 hours, out to the Urgent Care Centre where they could be seen more quickly and transported back to Temple Street at the end of their visit. This pilot has been in place for 5 weeks and in that time 130 children availed of the initiative. Since opening on 31 July, over 2,700 children have received treatment at the Urgent Care Centre, 304 children attended the centre last week (week ending 13 December 2019), an average of over 60 per day. The new outpatient department located at the facility had, seen 1,296 consultant-led attendances, for the same period, the majority of whom had been on a waiting list for up to two years to see a General Paediatrician in CHI at Temple Street, Crumlin or Tallaght.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Joe Gannon
Chief Operations Officer
Children's Health Ireland

Email: coo@nchg.ie



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Mission – To promote and provide child-centered, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.

CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 **Revenue Charitable Status CHY:** 22235

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