



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

11th December 2019

Deputy Stephen Donnelly,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 50213/19

"To ask the Minister for Health when Children's Health Ireland at Connolly Hospital will be open Monday to Sunday 8 am to 6 pm"

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

I refer to your parliamentary question above to which I have been asked to provide a response.

CHI continue to monitor the attendance patterns in the Paediatric Outpatient and Urgent Care Centre at CHI at Connolly to identify where we can extend the service.

Urgent Care

The initial opening hours of the Urgent Care Centre are Monday to Friday, 10am – 5pm, patients are treated and discharged by 8pm. The majority of patients are discharged home after their visit to the urgent care centre, with a small number of children transferred for further investigation and treatment to the children's hospitals at Temple Street, Crumlin and Tallaght.

While recruitment is ongoing, CHI have not been successful with expanding the Consultant workforce in Radiology and Emergency Medicine, both of which are critical to extending opening hours. CHI Executives are meeting with our relevant staff groups shortly to work on potential solutions to support extending the opening hours at the Urgent Care Centre.

Since opening on 31st July to 6th December 2019, 2,452 children have presented to the Urgent Care Centre at Connolly. Patients can present with or without a GP referral letter and do not require an appointment.

94% of children were discharged home after their visit to the urgent care centre. A small number of children were transferred for further investigation and treatment to the children's hospitals at Temple Street, Crumlin and Tallaght.

The average amount of time spent by patients in the urgent care centre is 145 minutes (excluding SSOU). This is the time it takes from registration to being discharged from the Urgent Care Centre after being seen and receiving the appropriate treatment by a doctor.

Yours sincerely,

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

Board Members: Prof James Browne (Chairman), Prof Niamh Brennan, Mr Con Cronin, Ms Mary Cryan, Mr Liam Dowdall, Prof Martin Elliott, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Anne Kilgallen, Dr Gavin Lavery, Ms Brigid McManus, Mr Turlough O'Sullivan, Mr Sean Sheehan



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