



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

Building a
Better Health
Service

Performance Management and Improvement Unit

17th December 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2
PQ 51960/19

* To ask the Minister for Health the emergency department waiting times greater than 24 hours for persons over 75 years of age to date in 2019; if the targets were met; if not, the number of persons over 75 years of age that had a wait of more than 24 hours in an emergency department to date in 2019, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Louise O'Reilly

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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 the following outlines the position.

The table below details the total number of persons aged 75 years and over who have experienced an Emergency Department wait time of greater than 24hrs during the month of November 2019 (1st – 30th November) and for the year to date (1st January to 30th November 2019) per hospital.

	Number > 24hrs	Number > 24hrs
	November	YTD
National Total:	1877	15344
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	244	2269
MRH Portlaoise	2	69
MRH Tullamore	50	628
Naas General Hospital	115	966
St. James's Hospital	14	139
Tallaght University Hospital	63	467
Ireland East Hospital Group	380	3181
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	179	1630
MRH Mullingar	17	146
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	4	64
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	0	7
St. Michael's Hospital	0	0
St. Vincent's University Hospital	166	1309

Wexford General Hospital	14	25
RCSI Hospitals Group	292	1841
Beaumont Hospital	171	1021
Cavan General Hospital	12	121
Connolly Hospital	56	350
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	53	349
Saolta University Health Care Group	237	1879
Galway University Hospitals	214	1751
Letterkenny University Hospital	18	47
Mayo University Hospital	2	42
Portiuncula University Hospital	1	7
Sligo University Hospital	2	32
South / South West Hospital Group	512	4321
Cork University Hospital	179	1687
Mercy University Hospital	86	536
South Tipperary General Hospital	0	5
UH Kerry	93	748
UH Waterford	154	1345
UL Hospitals Group	212	1853
UH Limerick	212	1853

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Data Source: PET Data

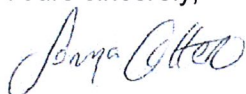
Subject: 75+ Patients who waited over 24hrs during November 2019 and the number to date January - November in 2019

The number of older persons presenting to Emergency Departments is growing higher than the overall increase in the general population. Older persons presenting to Emergency Departments are much more likely to be admitted and will stay twice as long as the general population. Consequently when patients wait on trolleys a higher number of patients waiting are in the older person's category and particularly in the greater than 75 years category.

The HSE is engaging in a number of programmes and initiatives to address how older people's care needs are met not just in hospital but to prevent them presenting to hospital Emergency Departments. The Integrated Care of the Older Persons Programme has invested in a number of sites across the country, which are already showing a positive impact in this regard, as is the investment in FITT teams and other initiatives to address frailty at the hospital 'front door'.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



Sonya Cotter
Interim Head of Special Delivery Unit (SDU)
Performance Management and Improvement Unit
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