



Géaroibríochtaí
Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar
Míleata Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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Date: 07/01/2020

Deputy Stephen Donnelly TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ No. 52224/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting fewer than 13 weeks following a referral for a routine colonoscopy or OGD at the end of November 2019 or the latest date available; and the number waiting more than 13 weeks - Stephen Donnelly.

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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.

Response:

Please find attached the latest information the national total and individual hospital by all timebands for active and TCI patients awaiting a GI endoscopy procedure (November 2019). Please be aware that the NTPF publishes this information on its website on a monthly basis and it is available at the following link:

<https://www.ntpf.ie/home/inpatient.htm>

Comparative information for previous years is also available on the NTPF website should you require it.

Please also be aware that the HSE publishes each month a range of information on its performance (including monthly compliance with GI waiting list targets (<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/performance-reports/>)). The HSE and NTPF utilise information from the NTPF waiting list database to ensure consistency of approach.

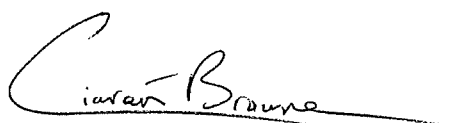
A significant programme of work has been commenced by the HSE to improve GI endoscopy capacity and quality of service delivery. This programme is led by a senior GI clinical lead within HSE Acute Hospital Operations. A range of improvement actions have commenced and information on the full range of activities and workstreams of the programme is available at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/acute-hospitals-division/clinical-programmes/endoscopy-programme/>.

The HSE also collaborates with the RCPI / RCSI on a quality improvement programme related to endoscopy. Further information on this can be found at <https://www.rcpi.ie/quality-improvement-programmes/gastrointestinal-endoscopy/>.

The HSE commenced a programme of endoscopy specific funding in 2019 to provide a range of additional capacity following allocation of funding in the National Service Plan 2018. This will continue into 2020 with additional resources.

You will also be aware of that NTPF also provides for a significant range of additional endoscopes to be out-sourced under the NTPF waiting list initiative. All hospitals are fully participating with the NTPF in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ciaran Browne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Ciaran Browne

Acute Hospitals Operations