



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

fig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais
Feidhmeannacht na
Seirbhíse Sláinte
Seomra 125, Ospidéal
Dr. Steevens
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer
Health Service Executive
Room 125, Dr Steevens
Hospital
Dublin 8

23rd July 2019

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

Re PQ 29737 19: *To ask the Minister for Health the average cost to the health service of a patient staying in an acute hospital bed overnight; and the average cost per bed night for an inpatient stay in an intensive care unit -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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

The average daily running cost of an in-patient hospital bed across acute hospitals can be calculated from our annual pricing cycle. This is €878 and represents the in-patient cost of a hospital including:

- Clinical staffing
- Theatres
- Laboratories
- Non-clinical staffing
- Cleaning, maintenance and other running costs

The €878 is a 'fully-absorbed' cost which means it includes treatment and care costs (such as diagnostics, theatres etc), running costs such as heating and lighting, servicing equipment etc. but excludes capital and depreciation and does not include other associated hospital costs such as Day Case, Outpatient and Emergency Department costs. The daily cost is calculated from costings submitted by hospitals under the Activity Based Funding programme and is based on 2017, the latest full year for which information is available. This cost is a national average across all nights, all hospitals and all types of inpatient cases, so it amalgamates all the different types of procedures carried out in hospitals nationally - from the most routine to the most complex. Data for Intensive Care Unit beds is not separately captured.

If a new hospital was to be built with the average case mix of work and cost of the existing system, the average daily running cost, based on 2017 data, would be €878 per bed.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at sarah.anderson1@hse.ie or tel: 045 882559.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Anderson

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