



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

22nd July 2019
Deputy Louise O'Reilly TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 26275/19 * *To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospitals in which bariatric surgery is available; the number of surgeries per million per capita delivered here; and the way in which this compares with other European countries.*

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 raised this matter with the Clinical Lead for Obesity and am advised as follows:

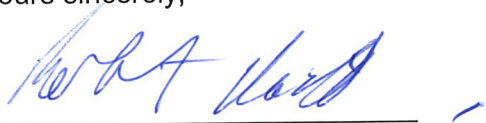
9 in 10 patients who undergo Bariatric surgery achieve and sustain more than 10% weight loss (25-30% usually). Bariatric surgery procedures include Sleeve Gastrectomy and Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass. In contrast, typically, 3 in 10 patients can achieve and sustain 5-10% weight loss through the addition of weight-loss medications (e.g. Victoza and Mysimba) and 2 in 10 obese people can achieve and sustain 5-10% weight loss through intensive dietary and lifestyle interventions.

Worldwide, there are now several hundred cost-effectiveness studies acknowledging that weight management programmes and bariatric surgery are cost effective interventions for obesity.

Currently in Ireland bariatric surgery is delivered to one in every 100,000 people. In contrast, many European countries perform between 20-70 bariatric surgeries per 100,000 of their population. At present, bariatric surgery is provided in two public hospitals in Ireland, St Vincent's University Hospital and University Hospital Galway. The HSE and the Hospital Groups have been working with the National Treatment Purchase Fund to support additional Bariatric surgical activity and this is evidenced by the increase in activity particularly in 2018 where activity increased by over 100% on 2017 levels.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Kidd', is written over a horizontal line. There is a small blue mark to the right of the line.

Robert Kidd
Assistant National Director
Acute Operations