



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

Office of the Head of Operations & Service Improvement
Services for Older People

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March 19, 2019

Deputy Niamh Smyth TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Smyth,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 10831/19

***To ask the Minister for Health if the Health if hospitals are to be reimbursed for the payment of transitional or convalescence respite within the nursing home setting in view of the perceived delay in the fair deal process in being granted a long term bed , and if he will make a statement of the matter ***

The National Transitional Care Bed initiative was put in place in January 2015 to support the discharge of patients from Acute Hospitals who had completed their acute phase of care in the and who could be discharged to private nursing home beds while waiting for their Nursing Home Support Scheme application to be finalised or for patients requiring a period of convalescence care to enable them return home.


The National Transitional Care Funding Scheme is supported centrally through the National Transitional Care Office which is part of the Community Operations Department of the HSE. Payments for patients discharged from the Acute Hospitals to private nursing homes under the scheme are made through the National Transitional Care Office and there is no cost to the Acute Hospital. The use of Transitional Care has proven very valuable to the system and has assisted with

the transfer of a significant number of patients to move to appropriate settings on their journey home or to residential care settings.

The table below sets out the number of patients supported under the scheme for the period from 2015 to 2018

Year	NHSS Clients approved	Convalescence Clients approved	Total
2018	4,288	6,949	11,237
2017	4359	6153	10,512
2016	3,473	4,209	7,682
2015	3479	2821	6,300
Totals	15,599	20,132	35,731

Yours sincerely,



Sandra Tuohy

Assistant National Director,

Services for Older People Operations