

11th March, 2019.

To: Mr. Brendan Howlin, T.D.

By Email: brendan.howlin@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Howlin,

PQ 11324/19 To ask the Minister for Health the criteria for providing community intervention teams at hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Brendan Howlin

A Community Intervention Team (CIT) is a specialist health professional team which provides a rapid and integrated response to a patient with an acute episode of illness who requires enhanced services/acute intervention for a defined short period of time. CIT personnel have a strong liaison role with hospital and community clinicians and provide services in the patient's home, primary care centres and in both public and private nursing homes. This may facilitate avoidance of acute hospital attendance/ admission or facilitate early discharge.

The CIT provide a range of services including administration of home IV antibiotics (Out-patient Parenteral Anti-microbial Therapy -OPAT); acute anticoagulation care; acute wound care and dressings; enhanced nurse monitoring following fractures, falls or surgery; care of a patient with a central venous catheter; urinary related care; care of the patient with a respiratory illness; bowel care including ostomy care; short term older person support and care and other medication management/ administration as part of patient's acute intervention package. CIT accept referrals from acute hospitals, GPs and other community services.

The first CITs were established in 2006. There has been a significant investment in the past 5 years which has allowed for an increase in the number of teams in place, from 5 teams in 2014 to now having sixteen CITs involved in the programme (attached). Investment was prioritised for the immediate catchment area of hospitals experiencing the highest pressure on their acute bed capacity. The proposal for full nationwide access to CIT services will be submitted as part of the Estimates process.

Yours sincerely,



**Geraldine Crowley,
Assistant National Director,
Primary Care Strategy and Planning**

Location of CITs

There are sixteen CITs in the programme. These are as detailed below:

Current locations March 2019	Requirements
CHO 1	CHO 1
Sligo / Leitrim/ West Cavan	Donegal
	Cavan / Monaghan
CHO 2	CHO 2
Galway	Mayo
Roscommon (limited capacity)	Expansion of Roscommon
CHO 3	CHO 3
Mid-West (Limerick, Clare and North Tipp).	
CHO 4	CHO 4
Cork and parts of Cork County	Parts of Cork County
Kerry (limited area)	Parts of Kerry
CHO 5	CHO 5
Carlow/ Kilkenny	Wexford
Waterford	
South Tipp	
CHO 6	CHO 6
Wicklow	
CHO 7	CHO 7
D South	
Kildare / West Wicklow (limited capacity)	Expansion of Kildare/ West Wicklow



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CHO 8	CHO 8
Louth	Longford/ Westmeath
Meath	
Laois/ Offaly	
CHO 9	CHO 9
D North	

