



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta um Phleanáil agus Chlaochlú Straitéiseach  
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Deputy Louise O'Reilly  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

14<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Ref: PQ 11621/19**

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above referenced Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health. The question concerned was referred to Strategic Planning and Transformation, HSE, for review and direct response. Our response to the PQ concerned, as provided by the Clinical Lead for Health and Wellbeing, Dr. Orlaith O'Reilly, is set out below.

Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in issuing you with this response, which was due to an administrative oversight on my behalf.

**PQ Ref: PQ 11621/19: To ask the Minister for Health the costs associated with providing national capacity for cardiac rehabilitation for persons for which cardiac rehabilitation is recommended; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**  
**- Louise O'Reilly**

**Response:**

The policy context for development in Cardiac Rehabilitation (CR) is the Department of Health's *Changing Cardiovascular Health: National Cardiovascular Health Policy 2010 – 2019*, which contains six recommendations addressing the areas of improving access, ensuring equity, addressing quality, endorsing different models of CR and promoting effectiveness and efficiency through ICT developments and appropriate governance. More recently the HIQA HTA (2016) and the HSE's National Self-Management Support Framework identified cardiac rehabilitation as one of the most cost effective methods of supporting patients to self-manage, and improving clinical and health service usage outcomes (resulting in a 30% reduction in hospitalisation in 1 year). The provision of cardiac rehabilitation capacity to meet the population needs is a top priority under the Self-Management Support Framework which is being implemented at present, see <https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/hl/selfmanagement/hse-self-management-support-final-document1.pdf>.

In response to your specific query the costs for CR have been estimated using the 2016 National Needs Assessment for Cardiac Rehabilitation survey as referenced in our response to you in PQ11620/19 in March 2019. These costing estimates are being used for bids for CR as part of the HSE's 2019 estimates process. From this data we have been advised that it is estimated that there are 10,209 patients who should receive cardiac rehabilitation, if it is (a)



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limited to patients with myocardial infarction, unstable angina, heart failure or revascularisation but who are currently are not receiving it. At the estimated cost of €439 per patient the additional costs estimated in providing adequate national capacity is €4.471542.00 million euros per annum.

If cardiac rehabilitation is provided to all patients with (b) cardiovascular disease the unmet need is 21,884 patients per annum, costing €9.6 million euro pa.

The HSE collaborated with HIQA to carry out a HTA for self-management support and HIQA reported that cardiac rehabilitation is one of the most cost effective methods of educating patients and giving them the skills needed to self-care for cardiac conditions. The HSE's Clinical Programmes have prioritised the development of cardiac rehabilitation around the Country and made new service development bids in 2018 for strengthening of the service. Unfortunately due to competing priorities and demands on the healthcare budget no additional funding has been made available to date in 2019. The Clinical Programmes in recent workshops with the Sláintecare Programme Office, Department of Health, have identified again the need to strengthen cardiac rehabilitation services nationally. Bids for funding will be made as part of the 2019 estimates process.

I trust this information, as provided by our Group Clinical Lead for Health and Wellbeing, is of assistance to you.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact this office on 01 635 2041 or via email [strategicplanning@hse.ie](mailto:strategicplanning@hse.ie).

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Ryan  
Business Manager

Office of the National Director, Strategic Planning and Transformation



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