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Date: 17th October 2019

PQ - 3941/19

Deputy Jonathan O'Brien Dail Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

"To ask the Minister for Health the start date for the new endocrinologist for the paediatric diabetes service in Cork University Hospital; the management plans in place to assist the almost 100 teenagers transition into adult diabetes services; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy O'Brien

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

While the hospital does not have a definitive date, it is anticipated the new Consultant Paediatric Endocrinologist will commence duties in CUH in January 2020.

A core group has been established in CUH to work on the transitioning of adolescent patients to adult diabetes services. The core group includes both adult and paediatric Consultant Endocrinologists as well as Clinical Nurse Specialists and managers. The new adult Consultant Endocrinology post will have a positive impact on the transition phase and timing of same. In the interim joint work is being undertaken by both services who have identified a number of service initiatives that it is hoped will facilitate patients transitioning to the appropriate team.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Interim Chief Executive Officer