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8th October 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref PQ 39049/19**To ask the Minister for Health the number of tubal ligations carried out on public patients in each of the years 2016 to 2018, in tabular form.

PQ 39051/19** To ask the Minister for Health the public hospitals that provide tubal ligation and vasectomy services.

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

As PQ 39049 and 39051 are closely related, the National Women and Infants Health Programme (NWIHP) felt it appropriate to answer the PQs together.

Data was sought and provided from the HSE Hospital Inpatient Enquiry (HIPE). Please note that HIPE reports only inpatient and day-case day. HIPE has advised that there is no procedure code for 'tubal ligation' and so data for the following three female sterilisation procedures were reported rather than solely 'tubal ligation':

1. Laparoscopic sterilisation
2. Sterilisation via vaginal approach
3. Sterilisation via open abdominal approach

PQ 39049:

The following table displays the total public patient discharges nationally with any of the three mentioned sterilisation procedures between 2016 and 2018.

Year	Count
2016	957
2017	851
2018	857

Source: HIPE, October 2019

Table: Total public patient discharges nationally with any sterilisation procedure, for the years 2016-2018, by year.

PQ 39051:

The below table lists public hospitals with 10 or more discharges for female sterilisation procedures (laparoscopic sterilisation, sterilisation via vaginal approach, sterilisation via open abdominal approach) in the year 2018:

	Hospital Name
1	Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital
2	Rotunda Hospital
3	National Maternity Hospital
4	Tallaght Hospital
5	Waterford University Hospital
6	St Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny
7	Wexford Hospital
8	South Tipperary General Hospital
9	Kerry University Hospital
10	University of Limerick Maternity Hospital
11	Portiuncula University Hospital
12	University Hospital Galway
13	Mayo University Hospital
14	Midlands Regional Hospital, Mullingar
15	Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise
16	Letterkenny University Hospital
17	Sligo University Hospital
18	OLOL, Drogheda
19	Cavan Hospital
20	Louth County

Source: HIPE, October 2019

Table: Hospitals with greater than 10 discharges in 2018 which had a sterilisation procedure.

The following table lists public hospitals with 10 or more discharges for vasectomy procedures (unilateral, bilateral) in the year 2018:

	Hospital Name
1	Naas General Hospital
2	St Joseph's, Raheny
3	Wexford Hospital
4	South Tipperary General Hospital
5	Kerry University Hospital
6	Cavan Hospital
7	Louth County

Source: HIPE, October 2019

Table: Hospitals with greater than 10 discharges in 2018 which had a vasectomy procedure.

Yours sincerely,



Mary-Jo Biggs,
General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme