



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil  
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12<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 18037/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the geographical gaps that exist with respect to heart failure service; the costs associated with addressing the disparity; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

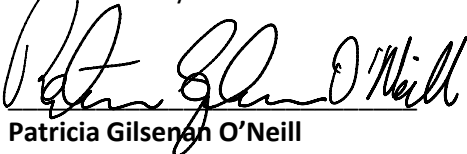
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Heart Programme on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

As per response to PQ 10955/20: There is a significant geographical gap in the acute heart failure services in Cork and Kerry. No structured heart failure units exist in these areas. A new Consultant Cardiologist with interest in Heart Failure was appointed in Kerry University Hospital in 2019; paving the way to establishing services and 1 Clinical Nurse Specialist in Heart Failure was appointed in Cork University Hospital also in 2019. In order to establish a structured Heart Failure (HF) service for Cork University Hospital a budget of approximately €360K is required and €191k approximately is required for University Hospital Kerry.

The HSE has established a new National Heart Programme (NHP) with a National Clinical Lead appointed in April 2020. This programme has subsumed the former National Clinical Programme for Heart Failure. The NHP will continue to make representations for funding to support this service gap.

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



Patricia Gilson O'Neill  
General Manager