Phríomhoifigigh
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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3 July 2020

Deputy Réada Cronin
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2

E: reada.cronin@oireachtas.ie

Ref: PQ 10537/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients that were transferred from hospitals to nursing homes in north County Kildare as a result of Covid-19; the number that were tested for Covid-19 prior to transfer; the number that tested positive while resident in nursing homes; the number that died from the virus; and if he will make a statement on the matter.
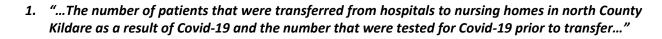
- Réada Cronin

Dear Deputy Cronin.

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The following Private community long term care facilities in Kildare North are registered and inspected by the Health Information Equality Authority (HIQA).

Name	Location
Craddock House	Naas
Elm Hall	Celbridge
Glenashling	Celbridge
Hazel Hall	Clane
Larchfield	Naas
Mill Lane Manor	Naas
Moyglare	Maynooth
Parke House	Kilcock
Ryevale	Leixlip
Shalom	Kilcock
TLC	Maynooth

There is only one HSE community long term care facility in Maynooth, North Kildare.

1. *"…The number of patients that were transferred from hospitals to nursing homes in north County Kildare as a result of Covid-19 and the number that were tested for Covid-19 prior to transfer…"*

The National Community Operations Division have stated the HSE arranges the transfer of certain patients from Acute hospitals deemed to be medically fit for discharge, but are not in a position to immediately return to their homes, to a more suitable care setting at a Nursing Home.

Transitional Care Funding is utilised by the HSE to assist in transferring the vast majority of such patients. There are two distinct groups of patients who avail of Transitional Care Funding:

1. Patients requiring Long Term Residential Care and who have made a Nursing Home Support (Fair Deal) application;
2. Patients who require a period of convalescence care before they return home.

A total of 67 residents were noted having transferred to Nursing Homes in North Kildare during the period March to May 2020 inclusive under Transitional Care Funding.

The Office of the National Director Acute Operations has stated that the HSE or the HPSC do not collect specific data in relation to the testing for Covid-19 prior to transfer.

2. **"…the number that tested positive while resident in nursing homes; the number that died from the virus…"**

The Interim Director of the HSE Health Protection Surveillance Centre has advised that they cannot currently comment on the data from private long term care facilities. However we can inform you that the HSE Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare are providing supports to private long term care facilities through our ALERT Crisis Response Team. This Team consists of expertise from the Department of Public Health, Infection Prevention and Control, Consultant Geriatricians, Directors of Nursing and HSE Executives. This team provides supports such as:

- Daily support call to update the HSE on the status of the nursing home in relation to COVID-19.
- Organising for the regular supply of PPE through deliveries via national COVID-19 procurement.
- Providing emergency supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) where required.
- Linking nursing homes with agency staff where required and available.
- Assisting with sourcing oxygen where required.
- Liaising with the acute hospital frailty teams.
- Linking nursing homes with infection control nurses through public health.
- On call supports over weekend days.
- Infection control webinars and training videos have been made available online.

Our ALERT Team has provided both clinical and staffing support to assist private the long term care facilities during this difficult time. The team is in regular contact with the person in charge of these facilities and will continue to support them and their staff to ensure full care and support is provided to all residents.

We are working to provide solutions to meet the needs of both public and private long term care facilities.

The HSE Maynooth Community long term care facility has recorded 22 COVID-19 positive cases to date since March 2020. Sadly 7 residents died of suspected and confirmed COVID-19 at this facility. RIP. The HSE would like to express its' sincere sympathies to the families and friends of all those who died.

All staff and residents of the Unit have been tested for COVID-19 as part of the testing prioritisation of nursing homes. Currently there are no suspected cases.

All nursing home staff and residents were tested as part of a mass-testing process in April and May. Further mass-testing of all nursing home staff is currently underway as part of a serial-testing process, whereby nursing home staff are tested once per week over a four week period. This process commenced on the 24th of June and is due to continue for circa 5 weeks. Nursing home residents continue to be tested via GP referral (i.e. if they present with symptoms), or on the direction of Public Health (i.e. where there is a confirmed or suspected outbreak in their nursing home). Testing and contact tracing is on-going; testing is based on clinical referral in line with HPSC guidance.

The information that is currently available is number of confirmed positive cases by county and a further breakdown by area.
This data (COVID-19 County Statistics HPSC Ireland Open Data, 2020) is accurate as of 02/07/2020 and is subject to change daily.

Area Division	Population (2016)	COVID-19 Confirmed Cases	COVID-19 Confirmed Cases per 100k:
Kildare	222504	822	369.43

Area Division	Population (2016)	COVID-19 Confirmed Cases**	COVID-19 Confirmed Cases per 100k:***
NAAS URBAN	21,597	228	1,055.70
LEIXLIP	15,576	216	1,386.75
MAYNOOTH	15,998	178	1,112.64
CELBRIDGE	15,653	90	574.97
KILCOCK	6,930	78	1,125.54
DONAGHCUMPER	6,257	55	879.02
BODENSTOWN	4940	23	465.59
CLANE	8142	18	221.08
KILL	4692	14	298.38
NAAS RURAL	2,739	14	511.14
DOWNINGS	2962	14	472.65
BALRAHEEN	2,403	10	416.15
KILMEAGE NORTH	2256	10	443.26
BALLYMORE EUSTACE	1517	8	527.36
RATHMORE	1142	6	525.39
STRAFFAN	2,035	5	245.7
TIMAHOE SOUTH	845	5	591.72
CLONCURRY	1,571	< 5	0.00
KILLASHEE	265	< 5	0.00
KILPATRICK	871	< 5	0.00
KILTEEL	571	< 5	0.00
LULLYMORE	187	< 5	0.00
NEWTOWN	920	< 5	0.00
TIMAHOE NORTH	1161	< 5	0.00
WINDMILL CROSS	1,182	< 5	0.00
ROBERTSTOWN	1983	< 5	0.00
DREHID	270	< 5	0.00
BALLYNADRUMNY	576	< 5	0.00
CADAMSTOWN	1414	< 5	0.00
KILRAINY	753	< 5	0.00

Area Division	Population (2016)	COVID-19 Confirmed Cases**	COVID-19 Confirmed Cases per 100k:***
FEIGHCULLEN	616	< 5	0.00
RATHERNAN	598	< 5	0.00
CARBURY	1913	< 5	0.00
DONADEA	793	< 5	0.00
DUNFIERTH	733	< 5	0.00

*Figures are based on cumulative cases to-date (total confirmed). It should be noted that a high proportion of such cases will have fully recovered within a 14 day period. Also, note that for a proportion of notified COVID-19 cases, their location may reflect their place of work rather than their home address.
**For confidentiality reasons, areas with values below 5 have been compressed to '< 5'
***Where a rate per 100k is set to '0.00' it means that the area has confirmed cases below 5 and its value has been suppressed to show '<5'. A rate of 0.00 is not an indication of 0 confirmed cases.
Note: Confirmed cases have been geo-coded and allocated to Electoral Divisions (EDs) by the Health Information Unit (HIU) at the HSE.

I trust this information is of use to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Ann O'Shea
Chief Officer
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare