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30th June 2020

Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
RE: PQ 10956/20

To ask the Minister for Health the costs associated with the national roll-out of heart failure integrated care projects in the community; 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.

Integrated care clinical nurse specialists (IC CNS) based in the community support GPs to manage heart failure patients; this service was first piloted in the Carlow-Kilkenny area. These IC CNS's also support GP's to refer patients into a heart failure virtual consultation clinic in the St Vincent's/ St Michael's Hospital Heart Failure Unit. These services have now been mainstreamed.

Consolidation and scale-up of these two integrated care services are the basis for the current Slaintecare Care Integrated Care Project – Heart Failure Virtual Consultation Service with Integrated Care Clinical Nurse Specialist Supports in the Community. This project has allowed expansion of the service in the East Coast as well as establishment of a new service in the Dublin North/ Mater Hospital area.

To provide the hospital aspects of this Integrated HF service approximately €275,000 per Model 4 hospital is required to establish the hospital service hub i.e. €2.5m.

To provide the community aspects of this service, approximately 4 Clinical Nurse Specialists are required in each of the 9 community healthcare organisational areas with some additional in urban areas (i.e. approximately €2.4m).

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



Tim Carey,
Assistant National Director