



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

08 December 2020

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

PQ 38731/20* To ask the Minister for Health the effect the two metre social distancing requirement will have on the availability of acute hospital beds by acute hospital; the expected knock on effect this will have on service provision; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for response.

I regret that the information is not collected in the form that you require and is therefore not available as requested.

However, I wish to draw your attention to the latest guidelines which refer to the minimum spacing between patients and provides the most up to date information on this issue, which might be of use to you.

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/infectionpreventionandcontrolguidance/hseinfectionpreventionandcontrolguidanceandframework/>

I trust that this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Thérèse Dalchan
General Manager

Acute Operations