



Géaroibríochtaí  
Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar  
Míleata Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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**Date: 23/10/2020**

Deputy Jim O'Callaghan TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ No. 30188/20 :- To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients admitted on a monthly basis to intensive care units here in each of the years 2017 to 2019 and in the first nine months of 2020.**

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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.

**Response:**

Annual ICU data is collated by the National Critical Care Programme and supplemented by the National ICU Audit. National ICU Audit to all 26 hospitals which provide ICU care is anticipated to be achieved in 2021.

Total numbers of admissions is not collected as it does not provide a valid comparison between hospitals. Admission criteria to ICU vary between hospitals but the numbers of patients requiring invasive mechanical ventilation is a more valid metric for comparisons.

The data that is collected relates to the numbers of patients undergoing invasive mechanical ventilation annually rather than total numbers of patients admitted to ICU. As data is collected on an annual basis, 2020 is not yet available.

Patients undergoing invasive mechanical ventilation:

- 2017 = 7,263
- 2018 = 7,236
- 2019 = 7,422

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emma Benton".

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**Emma Benton**

**General Manager**

**Acute Operations**