



25th September 2020

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 21312/20

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of community intervention teams in operation; the counties serviced and not serviced by such teams; the number and breakdown of staff on each team; the operational costs for each team; the budgeted hours and the hours provided by each team; the costs and staffing requirements involved in setting up a new team; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-David Cullinane”

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

Community Intervention Teams (CIT) are specialist health professional teams who offer an extended service, usually from 8am to 9pm, seven days per week that facilitates a patient's care in the community or home setting. The purpose of the service is to prevent unnecessary hospital admission or attendance, and to facilitate/enable early discharge of patients from the acute setting that are appropriate for CIT care. The service accepts referrals from acute hospitals, GPs and other community sources. Some teams benefit from the inclusion of Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Health Care Assistants and Administration, while other teams have access to these through other services.

The CIT provide a range of services including administration of home IV antibiotics (Out-patient Parenteral Anti-microbial Therapy -OPAT); acute anticoagulation care; acute wound care and dressings; enhanced nurse monitoring following fractures, falls or surgery; care of a patient with a central venous catheter; urinary related care; care of the patient with a respiratory illness; bowel care including ostomy care; short term older person support and care and other medication management/ administration as part of patient's acute intervention package.

There are 16 CITs in place, as listed below.

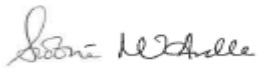
Staffing

WTE Staffing as of 30/11/2019 (latest date available)	Staffing WTE	Total WTE
Sligo	4.5 Nursing	4.5
Galway	15.5 Nursing 1.0 Admin	16.5
Roscommon	1.5 Nursing 1.0 Physiotherapist 1.0 Health Care Assistant 0.5 Admin	4.0
Mid West (Limerick; Clare; North Tipp.)	15.4 Nursing 8.0 Health care Assistants 2.0 Admin	25.4
Cork	7.5 Nursing 1.0 Admin	8.5
Kerry	3.85 Nursing	3.85
Carlow/ Kilkenny Waterford South Tipp	23.0 Nursing 2.5 Admin	25.5
Wicklow	4.0 Nursing 0.5 Admin	4.5
Dublin South	9.9 Nursing 1.0 Admin	10.9
Kildare	3.0 Nursing	3.0
Louth	10.4 Nursing 2.0 Physiotherapist 1.4 OT	13.8
Meath	7.0 Nursing	7.0
Laois/ Offaly	5.5 Nursing	5.5
Dublin North	19.66 Nursing 2.0 Admin	21.66
Total		154.61

CIT teams are a mix of HSE directly provided and privately provided teams. The overall budget for CIT in 2020 is circa €14.5 million. The cost of setting up a new service varies on the size of the area covered and the population to be served. The proposal for full nationwide access to CIT services was submitted as part of the Estimates process for 2020. Five new teams will be required to deliver nationwide access: Donegal; Cavan/ Monaghan; Mayo; Wexford and Longford/ Westmeath. This is in addition to the expansion required in the following areas – Roscommon, Kerry, parts of Co. Cork, and in Kildare / West Wicklow. The additional funding requested is €4.5 million.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations