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22nd September 2020

Deputy Mark Ward, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 24729/20

To ask the Minister for Health the work carried out by the HSE on a costed five-year strategy for stroke in the key areas of prevention, acute care, rehabilitation and restoration to health; when this strategy will be finalised and published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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 Clinical Programme for Stroke on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

With an ageing demography and the rapidly changing milieu of acute stroke treatment the national stroke programme embarked on developing a new national strategy for stroke. To meet the challenge of a predicted 58% increase in the total number of strokes 3 four pillars of a new stroke strategy were identified with the ambition of 'making big stroke history' through a focus on:

- Stroke Prevention
- Acute Care and Cure
- Rehabilitation and Restoration to Life
- Education and Research

Each pillar had a separate working group of appropriate expertise in the field chosen by a chair nominated from within the clinical advisory group of the national stroke programme. The remit of the working group was to produce key objectives for the next 5 years that were realistic to achieve, needed as best practice for modern stroke care and with a high impact for patient and service outcomes. These were then to be costed where possible to give indicative scale to health policy makers and commissioners of health care.

This process is now complete and the final draft of the strategy has been approved by the Clinical Advisory Group of the National Clinical Programme for Stroke.



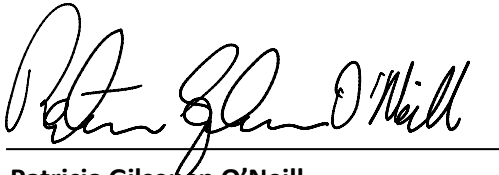
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Consultation with other stakeholders across the HSE is the next phase of the approval process and we are hopeful that this will take place over the coming weeks. The strategy will advance to publication once this process is complete.

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,



Patricia Gilsehan O'Neill
General Manager

