



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

07th May 2021

Deputy Éamon Ó Cuív

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

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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.

PQ 18886/21* To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients currently waiting on surgery for breast cancer by three month intervals of time on the waiting list in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -

Éamon Ó Cuív

Dear Deputy Ó Cuív,

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.

Response

I understand that the National Cancer Control Programme has responded in the context of Parliamentary Question 18887/21. In the context of the question set out above the same response is applicable, which is set out below:

The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) does not routinely collect data on scheduling (waiting lists) and as such the numbers of patients currently waiting for

surgical treatment would be data that only the hospitals themselves can comment on.

The National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) do collect routine data on treatment waiting lists which is publicly available at

https://www.ntpf.ie/home/inpatient_group.htm

However, this data is for all patients awaiting treatment and does not include any indication as to whether the procedure is related to a cancer diagnosis. Consequently, there is no facility for NCCP to specifically report on cancer patients awaiting surgical treatment.

Please note the following which was taken from the above link. The National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) is responsible for the collection, collation and validation of Inpatient, Day Case and Outpatient waiting lists.

The IPDC Waiting List report shows the total number of patients waiting, across the various time bands, for Inpatient and Day case treatment in each Specialty (these numbers do not include GI Endoscopies, see separate report). Each report lists the numbers waiting per Hospital in each particular specialty. To preserve confidentiality, where there are <5 patients waiting in a particular specialty/hospital, we have aggregated the numbers under a 'Small Volume' heading.

Each report is aggregated data on a monthly basis over a year. The current year's report will be appended to each month.

Adult/Child classification: From 1/1/2015 this is based on each hospital's designation, for example all Children's Hospitals will have all patients set as Child, all Adult-only hospitals have all patients set as Adult and all mixed Adult/Child hospitals have the patients designated based on age (0-15 = Child). Prior to 1/1/2015 each hospital managed their own adult/child classification ages.

Please note that NTPF does not collect activity data i.e. numbers treated or removed. We collect a snapshot of the number of patients waiting in each hospital and publish the numbers monthly on our website.

Boards and management of individual public hospitals are responsible for the accuracy and the integrity of patient data submitted to NTPF.

Work on the quality of this data is ongoing between NTPF and individual hospitals and technical and administrative issues will be addressed as they arise.

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Kidd', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert Kidd

Assistant National Director

Acute Operations