



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil
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Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 21090/21

To ask the Minister for Health the status of the implementation of recommendation 4.1 of Changing Cardiovascular Health: National Cardiovascular Health Policy 2010 – 2019; the actions that were taken to ensure full implementation; the aspects outstanding; the series of campaigns that took place in a phased manner as per the action; if interim evaluations guiding the next educational phase took place; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy O'Reilly

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 Heart Programme on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The following list outlines relevant media and education campaigns which have been undertaken by the HSE since the publication of the *Changing Cardiovascular Health: National Cardiovascular Health Policy 2010 – 2019* in 2010:

- QUIT campaign supporting people to quit smoking;
- askaboutalcohol.ie providing information and support to encourage low risk alcohol use;
- #LittleThings supporting positive mental health;
- Under the Weather.ie supports self-care at home and aims to curb the overuse of antibiotics;
- HSE campaign to help people to avail of GP care without fees for children aged under 6 and people aged 70 and over;
- GetIrelandActive.ie is a HSE website that supports people to get up, get out and get active.

National Clinical Programmes (NCPs), such as National Heart Programme (NHP), work with primary care staff to raise awareness of the symptoms of cardiovascular disease through the community.

Education of Primary Care Teams includes:

- Development of a Heart Failure (HF) eLearning Module available on HSEland, aimed at general practice staff and available to all involved in the care of HF patients;
- An information document for General Practice - Heart Failure in General Practice;
- Development of booklets for general practice including: (a) Heart Failure Diagnosis, (b) Management of Heart Failure and co-morbidities, (c) Breathlessness and (d) Atrial Fibrillation;

- NHP has contributed to several Heart Failure (HF) informational videos and a webinar: Heart Failure in General Practice: Tips and Trick;
- NHP signposts and highlights key resources available from sources including: the Heartbeat Trust, CROI, the Irish Heart Foundation (IHF) and HeartFailureMatters.org;
- NHP has supported printing of patient heart failure resources and information packs.

The Irish Heart Foundation *FAST (Face, Arm, Speech, Time)* campaign is aimed at increasing awareness of the general public to go to hospital immediately if stroke symptoms present, accessible at: <https://irishheart.ie/campaigns/fast/>.

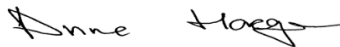
IHF also produces literature to support this FAST campaign which is available to all hospitals and primary care teams.

NHP supports CROI, as part of the Global Heart Hub, in their current work to promote a patient-led, COVID-19 response campaign accessible at: <https://croi.ie/covid-response/>

- When your heart says so... #just go
- When your heart needs you... #Step up
- Because time is crucial #Just Treat

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



Anne Horgan
General Manager