



National Lead for Palliative Care

Strategy and Planning
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Ceannasaí Náisiúnta um Chúram Mhaolaitheach

Straitéis agus Pleanáil
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Robert Troy TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

8th March 2021

Re.: PQ 10116/21

To ask the Minister for Health the spending per head of population for palliative care in each of the HSE areas in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Troy,

The Minister has requested the HSE to respond directly to you on this matter.

Please see the table below which includes the specialist palliative care budget, population and the per capita budget per CHO.

CHO	Total Jan 21 Budget €	Population CSO 2016	Budget per capita €
CHO1	€7,126,544	391,281	€18.21
CHO2	€11,537,201	453,109	€25.46
CHO3	€12,236,797	384,998	€31.78
CHO4	€12,742,973	690,575	€18.45
CHO5	€7,141,415	510,333	€13.99
CHO6	€4,210,796	393,239	€10.71 ¹
CHO7	€19,803,391	697,644	€28.39
CHO8	€6,748,568	619,281	€10.90 ²
CHO9	€13,251,789	621,405	€21.33
National	€3,339,261		
TOTAL	€98,138,736	4,761,865	
CHO Adjustments for SLA inclusions outside of palliative care i.e. services for older people, disability services	€9,711,714		
NSP New Development / Sustainability Plan	€9,700,000		
NSP 2021 Total Budget	€117,550,450		

1 The budget for Our Lady's Hospice Blackrock is included in the SLA for Our Lady's Hospice in CHO7.

2 CHO8 is the only remaining area without an inpatient unit/hospice. Plans are in place to develop two new units in the region and this will significantly increase the allocation in CHO8.

It should be noted that the table includes:

- primarily adult services and does not include children's palliative care (see below).
- HSE delivered services as well as services provided under SLA with voluntary organisations;
- a number of allocations to chronic disease services e.g. cancer support services.

The table does not include:

- the salaries of the majority of palliative medicine consultant posts which are paid through acute hospitals – most consultants also work in hospices as well as in the community;
- specialist palliative care services provided in acute hospitals;
- the care provided by GPs and primary care teams;
- home care packages, aids and appliances funded through primary care/social care budgets;
- medication provided for patients at home;
- the cost of care provided in palliative care support beds, located mainly in residential care units across the country;

The national budget includes grants to the Irish Cancer Society and Irish Hospice Foundation for the delivery of the end-of-life care Night Nursing Service; the All Ireland Institute for Hospice and Palliative Care for education and support programmes as well as a number of other palliative care initiatives.

Children's Palliative Care

One of the cornerstones of children's palliative care is to facilitate a fully integrated approach to care; therefore children being cared for at home in the community are supported by a wide range of services provided by statutory and voluntary organisations. These include adult palliative care, and GP, disability, and primary care services and it is not possible to determine the exact allocation for children's palliative care. However, there is a group of HSE funded healthcare professionals/services which solely provide children's palliative care, and these include:

- 11 Clinical Nurse Coordinators for Children with Life-Limiting Conditions located in every CHO;
- 2 Consultant Palliative Care Paediatricians located in CHI Crumlin and Temple Street;
- 1.5 Clinical Nurse Specialists located in CHI Crumlin.;
- LauraLynn Children's Hospice which provides a national service.

All of these posts are employed through the acute system and work to support children and their families while in hospital and at home in the community. Taking these posts/salaries into consideration, as well as €2m in new development funding provided for children in the 2021 National Service Plan, the budget allocation for children's palliative care this year is approximately €3.36m.

It should be noted that this does not include;

- the support provided by adult specialist palliative care teams in the community;
- the care provided by GPs, primary care teams and disability services;
- home care packages, aids and appliances funded through primary care / social care budgets;
- an annual grant to Jack and Jill Children's Foundation to provide support to families across the country.

I trust this answers your question but please do not hesitate to contact me should you require anything further.

Regards,



Sheilagh Reaper-Reynolds

National Lead for Palliative Care, Strategy & Planning