



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

20th January 2021

Deputy Sean Sherlock
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

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 1272/21* To ask the Minister for Health the therapies and procedures curtailed in each hospital since 3 January 2020.

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

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

Since the onset of COVID-19 there has been significant reduction in all scheduled care activity across Acute Services including outpatient clinics, this is in line with the National Action Plan on COVID-19 (page 20).

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/47b727-government-publishes-national-action-plan-on-covid-19/>

Arising from the NPHE decision in early May regarding resumption of services and aligned with the roadmap for reopening society and business, Phase 1

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ad5dd0-easing-the-covid-19-restrictions-on-may-18-phase-1/#health-and-social-care>, interim guidance was developed in the context of all scheduled services for the resumption of activity.

This guidance was approved by the Expert Advisory Group (EAG) and was issued to all hospital groups/hospitals to support the resumption of scheduled care.

This guidance outlines the measures that need to be undertaken to ensure safety for both patients and staff and vary depending on the type of appointment or treatment the patient is receiving. Key advice for both patients and staff has been provided depending on the above relating to measures required during the various steps in the patient journey. In addition to the above guidance has been provided specifically for individual specialties to support prioritisation of patients during this time of constrained activity.

Appendix I and II outline the cancellation data for outpatients and inpatients from the 3rd January 2020 to 31st December 2020. This data is collected and provided by the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF). The data collected is on **new** patients and only data up to the end of 2020 which is the most recent reporting information available centrally.

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.

Robert Kidd
Assistant National Director, Acute Operations

Appendix I

Table 1: New outpatient cancellations

Month	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Grand Total
Total Cancellations	14329	12661	25895	13316	8306	9782	11143	9701	11884	11466	11700	8932	149115

This data represents cancellations of new patients only, this data includes both patient and a hospital cancellation and this data includes patients who did not attend for their appointment.

Appendix II

Table 2: New inpatient/day case cancellations

Month	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Grand Total
Total Cancellations	4,003	4,020	13,607	4,794	2,210	2,186	2,824	2,809	3,613	4,081	3,825	3,204	51,176

This data represents cancellations of new patients only, this data includes both patient and a hospital cancellation and this data includes patients who did not attend for their planned procedure.