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PQ - 4948/21

Deputy Holly Cairns
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

"To ask the Minister for Health his views on putting in place the resources to extend the medical assessment unit opening hours in Bantry General Hospital to a 24/7 basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy Cairns

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The National Acute Medicine Programme (NAMP) Model of Care defines the Medical Assessment Unit (MAU) within Model 2 Hospitals as designed to manage patients who have a low risk of requiring full resuscitation.

The MAU at Bantry General Hospital, a model 2 site which forms part of the South/South West Hospital Group receives undifferentiated medical patients. The service operates 7 days per week from 9am – 4.30pm. Outside of these hours patients with medical conditions can still be referred to the hospital 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by the GP/South Doc.

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,

Interim Chief Executive Officer