



Colm Burke TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

9th April 2021

PQ 14850/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients diagnosed with Covid-19 who have been referred to hubs; the number of non-Covid-19 patients referred in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke”

Dear Deputy Burke,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 14850/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Community Assessment Hubs (CAHs) provide timely community based acute clinical assessment for COVID-19 patients (presumptive and confirmed). The rationale for the establishment of CAHs was to free up general practice to give much needed non-covid care in a safer environment and to minimise any inappropriate use of Acute Hospital capacity (attendance and admission avoidance) and the risk of community transmission of COVID-19. Patients with non COVID-19 conditions have not been referred to CAHs and these patients have been seen by General Practitioners or referred to other services as appropriate.

The most reliable indicator of activity at CAHs is the number of appointments attended. From commencement of the first CAHs in April 2020 through April 7th 2021 there has been a total of 12,257 appointments attended at CAHs.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

TJ Dunford
Head of Operations; Primary Care.
Community Operations.