



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohifigeach Cliniciúil
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30th June 2021

Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 25179/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of advanced nurse practitioners operating in heart failure service units; the costs associated with ensuring at least one advanced nurse practitioner in each heart failure service unit; 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 Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) works autonomously in certain defined areas of practice to provide care for patients with heart failure (HF) and their families/carers through direct clinical care, information, education and support. They provide independent nurse-led clinics for HF patients in certain settings, facilitating evidenced based diagnosis and management, including assessment and prescribing. The ANP provides case management and support for the on-going care of specific patients in collaboration with GPs, Consultants and the wider multidisciplinary team (MDT). The ANP also provides education for patients, their families/carers and the wider MDT in disease education, evidenced-based management, the prevention of disease progression and self-management support.

There are currently 11 WTE ANPs operating in acute HF units. An ANP post costs approximately €78,000. It is not currently a requirement of the National Heart Programme (NHP) Model of Care for HF units to have 1 ANP per HF unit. Currently, this requirement is decided locally, as part of the overall structure of the specific unit e.g. availability of Consultant Leads, number of Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) etc. The NHP will keep the role of the ANP under review as part of ongoing review and updates of the Model of Care for Heart Failure.

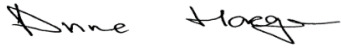


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I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Anne Horgan
General Manager