



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive



University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

OFFICE OF THE CEO  
SOUTH / SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL GROUP  
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CORK  
Tel: 021 – 492150

11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Deputy Alan Kelly,  
1 Summerhill,  
Nenagh,  
Co. Tipperary

Re: PQ 58406/19

**\*To ask the Minister for Health the number of surgeries excluding emergency surgeries that were carried out in each hospital in the South/South West Hospital Group on weekends in each of the years of 2018, 2019, 2020 and to date in 2021, in tabular form. -Alan Kelly**

Dear Deputy Kelly,

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. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your query due to the current service pressures being experienced by acute services. We have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

Please see *Table 1* below for the total elective discharges from the South/ South West Hospital Group with a weekend surgical procedure by hospital between 2018-2020. A small number of cases which may have had a surgical procedure in 2018-2020 but were discharged after 2020 are not included.

Please note that this information was provided by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) who are responsible for managing and reporting data from the Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) scheme. HIPE is a health information system designed to collect medical and administrative data regarding discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals. The data is based on the closed HIPE files of 2018, 2019 and 2020 only.

Please note that the HPO advised that data is not yet available for 2021, however, this will be available in the near future and S/SWHG will be happy to provide you with same once this data is received.

*Table 1*

<b>Total elective discharges from the South Southwest Hospital Group with a weekend surgical procedure<sup>1</sup>, by hospital, 2018-2020</b>			
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
University Hospital Waterford	250	96	65
South Tipperary General Hospital, Clonmel	8	7	~
Mercy University Hospital, Cork	19	32	19

<b>Total elective discharges from the South Southwest Hospital Group with a weekend surgical procedure<sup>1</sup>, by hospital, 2018-2020</b>			
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital	28	23	36
Cork University Hospital inc. Cork University Maternity Hospital	249	243	155
University Hospital Kerry	15	9	*
Kilcreene Orthopaedic Hospital	0	0	0
Bantry General Hospital	0	0	0
Mallow General Hospital	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>290</b>

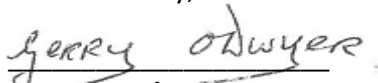
**Definitions:**

A procedure is defined as a clinical intervention that is surgical in nature and/or carries a procedural risk and/or carries an anaesthetic risk and/or requires specialised training and/or requires special facilities or equipment only available in an acute care setting.

<sup>1</sup>Cases are selected based on a principal procedure from a HPO list of surgical procedures. The HPO does not disclose cells where the number of discharges reported to HIPE is five or less. **Therefore, values between one and five must be suppressed and are replaced by ~. To ensure that the values in these suppressed cells are not disclosed, further suppression of other cells may be necessary. Where this is the case, the cell with the next lowest number of discharges is replaced by \*.**

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you require any clarification on the above matter or have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. Gerry O' Dwyer**

**CEO,**

**South/South West Hospital Group**

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