



17th September, 2021

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ Ref: PQ41753/21

PQ: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of recruiting an additional dementia coordinator.

The Irish National Dementia Strategy (Department of Health, 2014) seeks to progress the dual and overarching principles of personhood and citizenship by enabling people with dementia to maintain their identity, resilience and dignity and by recognising that they remain valued, independent citizens who, along with their families and/or carers, have the right to be fully included as active citizens in society. The guiding principles of this Strategy should inform and underpin services, supports and initiatives across all health and social care streams for people with dementia, their families and/or carers.

A key objective of both Sláintecare and the National Dementia Strategy is that people with dementia should be facilitated to remain living in their own homes for as long as possible, supported by acute services, the wider community along with primary, secondary and community care service.

There are a number of services and roles in the community, alongside primary care, which enable people to live at home, including the Dementia Adviser Service, the Memory Technology Resource Rooms, a range of community supports such as dementia café's, social groups, home and day care.

In addition, there is a nationally approved Clinical Nurse Specialist in Dementia role which undertakes:

- person centred assessment
- planning
- delivery
- evaluation of care given to people with a diagnosis

The CNSp in dementia can be located in a hospital, community and/or outpatient setting. The underlying theory for caring for people with dementia is one of person centeredness emphasising partnership with people with dementia, their families and/or carers to promote strengths, independence and create resilience. The CNSp in dementia supports and promotes this theory within the multi-disciplinary team

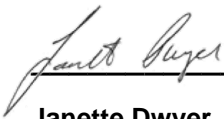
(MDT). They work closely with medical, health and social care professionals, voluntary organisations etc. and may make alterations in prescribed clinical and person centred options alongside agreed pathways, policies, procedures and protocol driven guidelines.

In addition co-ordination of investigations, treatment therapies and patient follow-up is an aspect of their care role. There is no nationally approved Dementia Care Coordinator role.

The salary scale for the CNSp in Dementia is:

€50,912– €51,756 – €52,468 – €53,633 – €54,920 – €56,183 – €57,446– €58,868 – €60,190

Regards,



**Janette Dwyer,
Assistant National Director,
Change and Innovation, Services for Older People & Dementia Care,**

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