



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Our Ref: PQ42097/21

9 September 2021

Deputy Sean Sherlock TD
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Sherlock

I refer to recent PQ which has been forwarded to me for attention.

PQ

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to directives underway in each hospital children's ward in which parents who must stay overnight with their child for operations or observation are not allowed to swap out with the other parent who is already in a home bubble and in cases in which the child is already in a separate room within the hospital.

I wish to advise you that the visiting guidelines at Children's Health Ireland (CHI) have been developed to protect children and their families and other visitors. The current visiting guidance during the period of COVID-19 restrictions is that one parent/guardian is permitted to stay with the child. A second parent/guardian can swap out with the parent staying at any time. This swap over is encouraged to take place outside of the clinical area.

CHI also give consideration to any parents who wish to stay with their child on compassionate grounds and this can be discussed with the duty nurse manager.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Your sincerely

Joe Gannon
Chief Operations Officer
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