



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens, D08 W2A8
R: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

Clinical Design & Innovation; Office of the Chief Clinical Officer
Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8
E: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

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Deputy Carol Nolan, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 42457/21

To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken to improve investment in heart failure workforce; his views on the delivery of 4 heart failure clinical nurse specialists per 150,000 population starting with filling currently funded whole-time equivalents; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Nolan,

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.

Significant investment has been made as part of the Enhanced Community Care Programme. Funding has been made available in phase one to support 18 Integrated Care Specialist Ambulatory Care Hubs in the community, with an additional 12 hubs planned. Each of these specialist community hubs will have 3 Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) CNS's serving a population of approximately 150,000 and a cardiac rehabilitation team. The role of the integrated care cardiology teams will incorporate care of patients with heart failure. To support the roll out of the community hubs some acute hospital gaps have also been addressed with funding being allocated in phase 1 for 8.2 WTE Acute CVD CNS's and seven Integrated Care Lead Consultant Cardiologists— these posts will incorporate provision of care for heart failure patients. Recruitment of the staff to operate these integrated care community hubs has commenced.

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,

Patricia Gilsenan O'Neill
General Manager, Business Management Office



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