

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

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23rd September 2021

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

RE: PQ 42458/21

To ask the Minister for Health his views on measures that will enable consultant cardiologist led heart failure services for both inpatients and outpatients in all areas as well as a dedicated cardiac physiologist as part of heart failure units; 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.

The updated national Model of Care for Heart Failure services 2021 is due to be published shortly.

Significant progress towards consultant led services is being made with the implementation of the Enhanced Community Care Programme (ECCP). As part of the ECCP, funding has been made available in phase 1 to support 18 Integrated Care Specialist Ambulatory Care Hubs in the community, with an additional 12 hubs planned. To support the roll out of the community hubs some acute hospital gaps have also been addressed with funding being allocated in Phase One for 7 Integrated Care Lead Consultant Cardiologists. Details of additional posts for Phase two are currently being finalised. These integrated care clinical lead posts will support the provision of care for patients with cardiovascular disease including heart failure.

As part of the ECCP planning is underway to support non-invasive diagnostics including ECHO services this will include additional cardiac physiologist resources to support community services. The details of this plan are currently being finalised.

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

