



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

27th September 2021

Deputy Murphy,
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

PQ 44249/21* *To ask the Minister for Health “The way consultants and surgeons triage a patient for surgery in relation to elective surgeries; and the location in which this is recorded”.*

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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.

Response

Categorisation of patients by clinical priority is required to ensure that all patients receive care in a timely and clinically appropriate manner. The clinical priority should be appropriate to the patient and their clinical situation.

The national inpatient, day case, planned procedure (IDPP) waiting list management protocol which was published in 2017 outlines the guidance to support optimal practice for the management and scheduling of patients on inpatient, day case and planned procedure hospital waiting lists. This includes details around association of clinical priority/triage for a patient and how this information should be recorded.

Key areas in relation to the query above are included in the protocol including:
Section 5. Clinical Priority

The full protocol is available at
<https://www.ntpf.ie/home/pdf/National%20Waiting%20List%20Management%20Protocol.pdf>

In 2018, the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) prioritised a project to develop a national Booking Form, through the National IDPP Steering Group, in response to an audit recommendation from the 2017 and 2018 Audit Programme. Following an extensive stakeholder engagement process, a standardised national IDPP Booking Form template was developed by the NTPF in conjunction with the HSE and Clinical

Care Programmes. It was introduced into the system in June 2019 for implementation by hospitals from July 2019.

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Kidd', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Kidd
Assistant National Director
Acute Operations