



**Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí**

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5th May 2022

Deputy David Cullinane

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

PQ 19305/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the average length of stay for patients admitted for longer than one day via an emergency department or otherwise in each of the years 2015 to 2021 and in Q1 2022 for each statutory HSE and public voluntary hospital by hospital group in tabular form; the number that stayed longer than 5, 10, and 31 days; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

I wish to advise you that the information you are seeking is collected through HIPE. As you are aware, HIPE is a health information system, managed by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) of HSE Finance and is designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. HIPE discharges are clinically coded from charts in the hospitals, this includes translating medical terminology into alpha-numeric code and using the entire chart to extract the conditions and procedures to create an adequate picture of the patient's health care encounter.

I attach, as requested, the average length of stay for patients admitted for longer than one day via emergency department or otherwise provided by Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) for 2015 to 2020.

I am advised by HPO that, as the 2021 and 2022 files are still open, the information you requested cannot be provided for 2021 and 2022. I understand that the 2021 file is due to close soon and it is expected that the data should be available in June 2022.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Carol Ivory

General Manager,

Acute Operations