

Our Ref: CD/KI 042000

4th Jan, 2023

Re: PQ 60649/22

'To ask the Minister for Health if his Department and the HSE are satisfied that corrective actions to non-compliant findings and HIQA key recommendations have been implemented following HIQA's inspection on 29 September 2020 with the subsequent report published on 17 December 2020 for a hospital (details supplied); and if he will provide an update on the HSE's ongoing work to improve and maintain infection prevention and control measures in community and acute healthcare setting at this hospital. -Alan Dillon'

In response to your query in relation to the HIQA Inspection carried out in Mayo University Hospital in September 2020 and subsequent Quality Improvement Initiative following that visit, there was an unannounced HIQA inspection carried out.

There were six standards reviewed during the visit. Out of the six standards reviewed MUH was either substantially complaint of fully compliant with five of those and non-compliant in one.

The non-compliant related to effective care and support standard 2.6, Healthcare is provided in a clean and safe physical environment that minimises the risk of transmitting a healthcare associated infection. The issue highlighted in this non-compliance related to the infrastructure in A ward, this has been fully resolved by major capital project completed in November 2020.

The second related to the Emergency Department and a number of minor issues on C Ward. The actions for the infrastructure in the Emergency Department ultimately is to progress the extension of the Department and new build of a designated AMAU, this has progressed to the stage one phase sign off in design. An additional interim measure is that the modular unit, used in Covid is now utilised as an Ambulatory ED. This gives 6 more cubicles to the ED and helps with patient safety, flow and dignity (particularly for the non-admitted patients). Continued efficiency measures are being progressed in the department, also a lot of the guidance and restriction in place in ED due to Covid in 2020 have since been revised. We opened the extra beds in St Johns (at the time of the visit in 2020 we were undergoing major structural works on two of the main medical wards and this was subsequently completed. The other issues on C Ward were addressed and some (white rocking of walls is still outstanding as we have not been in a position to close bays to do this with the ongoing capacity pressures). There are ongoing infection control audits of all these wards and areas where the compliance level is very high. There are no infection control issues that are outside of Management awareness at this point in time.

Kind Regards,



Catherine Donohoe
Hospital Manager