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17th February 2022

Deputy Gannon,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 4841/22: To ask the Minister for Health the number of women and pregnant persons that required hospital care as a result of untreated hyperemesis or dehydration or other effects of hyperemesis in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Dear Deputy Gannon,

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

In responding to your query, data has been derived from the HSE's HIPE Data collection system, which records the discharge data per episode of care. Patients may be admitted to hospital more than once in any given time period with the same or different diagnosis i.e. the data is not patient specific. Therefore, it is not possible to use HIPE to examine certain parameters such as the number of hospital encounters per patient, or to estimate incidence or prevalence of disease. HIPE collects and reports on day patient and in-patient activity only, ED and out-patient attendances are not recorded on HIPE.

In relation to this exercise, HIPE can only provide data for 2019 and 2020 as data in relation to 2021 is still provision and is still subject to change. HIPE data is collected relating to dehydration and hyperemesis treatment that results in day patient and in-patient activity.

Diagnosis and Procedures are coded in HIPE using ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS. From 2015-2019 the 8th Edition was used, from 2020 the 10th Edition is used. This change in the coding classification needs to be considered when looking at the data across years.

Table 1: Total discharges from acute hospitals with any listed diagnosis of *hyperemesis, reported to HIPE, 2019-2020**

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| 2019 | 3,237 |
| 2020 | 3,007 |

***8th edition ICD-10-AM Codes (2019) – this encompasses the following:**

O21 Excessive vomiting in pregnancy

O21.0 Mild hyperemesis gravidarum

O21.1 Hyperemesis gravidarum with metabolic disturbance

O21.2 Late vomiting of pregnancy

O21.8 Other vomiting complicating pregnancy.

O21.9 Vomiting of pregnancy, unspecified

***10th edition ICD-10-AM Codes (2020) – this encompasses the following:**

O21 Excessive vomiting in pregnancy

O21.0 Hyperemesis gravidarum

O21.2 Vomiting in late pregnancy

O21.9 Vomiting in pregnancy, not elsewhere classified

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme