



Rannán na nOspidéal Ghéarmhíochaine
Aonad 1A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar Míleata
Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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9th February 2022

Deputy Peadar Toibin
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 5832/22: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of new ICU beds opened in the State in each of the past five years and to date in 2022.

Dear Deputy Toibin,

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.

Based on the annual census taken by the National Critical Care Clinical Programme, in 2017 there were 240 critical care beds and in March 2020 there were 255 critical care beds available, an increase of 15.

Significant investment of €77m between 2021 and 2022 has enabled an increase in the number of critical care beds to 297 at the end of 2021. In addition, 22 critical care beds were upgraded from HDU (level 2) to ICU (level 3) beds and the associated increase in staffing increasing capability to care for critically ill patients. A further 28 beds are planned to open in 2022 bringing the total beds to 325.

I am advised that, of these, 1 critical care bed will open in Cork and 3 interim beds will open in the Mater before the end of February, 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Byrne
Assistant National Director, Acute Operations