



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

Acute Hospitals Division  
Unit 1A, The Dargan Building, Heuston South Quarter,  
Military Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8  
☎: 07669 59972 ✉: [acutehospitals@hse.ie](mailto:acutehospitals@hse.ie)

28<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 41507/22: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost of providing and staffing ten additional ICU beds in a public hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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.

The National Standards for Adult Critical Care Services provide a patient-based definition of critical illness where critical illness is defined by the patient's clinical condition and his/her level of need for critical care. Accordingly, critical care is not an institution-based or specialty-based definition.

A critically ill patient requiring critical care support for single organ failure normally receives "Level 2" critical care which involves active management by critical care team. A critically ill patient requiring invasive ventilatory support or requiring multi-organ supports normally requires "Level 3" critical care.

The tables below outline the full year revenue cost of a critical care bed for each level, in both existing infrastructure and new buildings:-

<b>Beds in Existing Infrastructure (Pay &amp; Non Pay)</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Full Year Cost for 10 additional beds</b>
Level 2 (High Dependency HDU)	€400,000	€4,000,000
Level 3 (Intensive Care ICU)	€800,000	€8,000,000

<b>New building (Pay &amp; Non Pay)</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Full Year Cost for 10 additional beds</b>
Level 2 (High Dependency Unit HDU)	€500,000	€5,000,000
Level 3 (Intensive Care ICU)	€1,000,000	€10,000,000

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Helen Byrne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H' and 'B'.

---

Helen Byrne,  
Assistant National Director, Acute Operations