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Date: 28/06/2022

Deputy Matt Shanahan TD

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2

PQ 30298/22

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 668 of 31 May 2022, if the national designation for a hospital is not a policy matter and it does not rely on standards, specifications or custom and practice established by his Department; and if it is entirely a service matter that is made by the HSE or by bodies under the remit of same.

Dear Deputy Shanahan,

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.

Response:

As outlined in the previous PQ referenced the Report of the National Acute Medicine Programme describes the organisation of acute medicine services recommends four generic hospital models, this report was developed by Royal College of Physicians of Ireland Irish Association of Directors of Nursing and Midwifery Irish College of General Practitioners Therapy Professions Committee Quality and Clinical Care Directorate and Health Service Executive

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/acute-medicine/report%20of%20the%20national%20acute%20medicine%20programme.pdf>

In February 2013 the Securing the Future of Smaller Hospitals: A Framework for Development was published and defines the role of the smaller hospitals, this was developed by the Department of Health and the HSE and is available at the link below:

<https://assets.gov.ie/12170/91124d282ee84248b929698e050dedc5.pdf>

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emma Benton', with a small flourish at the end.

Emma Benton

General Manager

Acute Operations