



Rannán na nOspidéal Ghéarmhíochaine  
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Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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11<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Deputy Neasa Hourigan  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

***PQ 33776/22: To ask the Minister for Health the way in which his Department will support hospitals in meeting drugs costs and in implementing quality initiatives in delivery, as per the HSE Service Plan 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter.***

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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 wish to advise you that the Acute Hospitals Drugs Management Programme (AHDMP), Acute Operations was established in 2016 to promote the cost-effective use of medicines and to provide equitable access to drug therapies on the basis of clinical need in the Irish Public Health Service.

To support hospitals in meeting drugs cost and implementing quality initiatives, the AHDMP are responsible for ensuring the full benefits of commercial agreements (e.g. IPHA Agreement for acute hospital services) are realised effectively in the best interests of patients and services and introducing new drugs in line with the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 to enable continued reimbursement of cost-effective new medicines.

The AHDMP provides pharmaceutical procurement expertise to colleagues in HSE procurement; to hospitals to support the compliant procurement of medicines with EU procurement legislation, maximising the opportunities for improved transparency around pricing and supply chain.

The AHDMP works closely with hospital pharmacists to coordinate and support medicine management initiatives within the acute hospital setting. It also supports the development of national clinical guidelines in collaboration with the relevant National Clinical Programme where required; under the clinical governance of the National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead, Acute Operations.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Byrne, Assistant National Director  
Acute Operations