



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
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7th April 2022

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 15521/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the status of long Covid clinics; the number established and planned to be established; the funding allocated to each; the staffing resources and vacancies of each; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 15521/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE interim Model of Care (MoC) for Long COVID was published in September 2021. The aim of the MoC is to provide a national approach to provision of services and supports for patients experiencing prolonged symptoms of COVID-19. It sets out a framework for the provision of these services and supports spanning General Practice, Community Services, Acute Hospitals and Mental Health Services. The resultant interim Model of Care recommended the development of eight Post-Acute clinics and six Long COVID clinics.

Post-Acute clinics will be led by respiratory consultants and will provide assessment and ongoing care for patients within twelve weeks of infection. The following hospital sites have been nominated as Post-Acute COVID clinics:

Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown
Mater University Hospital
Tallaght University Hospital
St James University Hospital
Cork University Hospital
University Hospital Galway
University Hospital Limerick
Letterkenny University Hospital

Long COVID clinics will be led by respiratory consultants and will provide assessment and ongoing care for patients with prolonged symptoms of COVID-19 more than 12 weeks after initial onset of infection. The following hospital sites have been nominated as Long COVID clinics:

St James University Hospital
Cork University Hospital



University Hospital Galway
University Hospital Limerick
Beaumont University Hospital
St Vincent's University Hospital

Some of these clinics are already operational. They have been established in response to local need and are leveraging existing resources and capacity. The HSE is now working these sites to expand their resources to ensure they can meet the requirements of the Model of Care and what is required within a local context. It is also working with sites that do not already have access to designated clinics so that these can become operational.

€2.2 million has been allocated in 2022 for the establishment of this service. Hospital sites identified have commenced the process of recruitment of the personal associated with each of the clinics. This includes consultants in the area of infectious diseases, respiratory medicine, neurology and additional multi-disciplinary staff to support the work of the clinics.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ Dunford', written over a horizontal line.

TJ Dunford
Head of Operations - Primary Care
Community Operations