



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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12th April 2022

Deputy Joan Collins,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 17308/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide the six sites the HSE will establish specialist acute hospital clinics for long Covid; and the services that will be provided in them.

- Joan Collins

Dear Deputy Collins,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 17308/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE developed an interim Model of Care (MoC) for Long COVID in September 2021 to address the need to provide follow up care for patients with prolonged signs and symptoms of COVID-19. The aim of this Model of Care is to provide a national approach to the provision of this follow up care, by setting out a framework for how services should be designed and delivered. The Model will build on existing service provision, in addition to establishing new services and supports across a number of different settings, including General Practice, Community Services, Acute and Integrated Care.

Within the acute setting, the Model further identifies the need for both Post-Acute and Long COVID clinics within each hospital group. The aim of Post-Acute COVID clinics is to ensure that patients who have recovered from the acute phase of COVID-19 are followed up in a timely and appropriate fashion taking into account factors such as disease severity, likelihood of long term respiratory symptoms and functional disability. As the recovery phase from COVID-19 may at times be unpredictable, clinical follow-up of this patient group should remain mindful of the possibility of additional, emerging issues. The Long COVID Clinics are a specialist service for patients with signs and symptoms that develop during or after an infection consistent with COVID-19, continue for more than 12 weeks and are not explained by an alternative diagnosis.

Post-Acute COVID clinics will be located at the following hospital sites:

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 located at the following hospital sites:

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

The MoC identifies the resources and personnel required for each of these clinics including infectious disease consultants, respiratory consultants, neurologists and allied health staff to support the clinics. It has notified all clinics that they can proceed to recruit these personnel

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