



**Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí**

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12th May 2022

Deputy David Cullinane

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

PQ 23340/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the average length of stay for patients admitted for longer than one day via an emergency department or otherwise for each statutory HSE and public voluntary hospital by hospital group in April 2022, in tabular form; the number that stayed longer than 5, 10, and 31 days; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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 information you are seeking is collected through HIPE. As you are aware, HIPE is a health information system, managed by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) of HSE Finance and is designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. HIPE discharges are clinically coded from charts in the hospitals, this includes translating medical terminology into alpha-numeric code and using the entire chart to extract the conditions and procedures to create an adequate picture of the patient's health care encounter.

I am advised by the HPO that, as the 2022 file is still an open file, the information requested cannot be provided.

I trust this clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Ivory

General Manager,

Acute Operations