



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens, D08 W2A8
R: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

Clinical Design & Innovation; Office of the Chief Clinical Officer
Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8
E: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

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Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 23534/22

To ask the Minister for Health the cost of rolling out heart failure virtual clinics nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Heart Programme (NHP) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The Enhanced Community Care (ECC) Programme is supporting the development of thirty Integrated Care Specialist Ambulatory Care Hubs in the community. Each of these specialist community hubs will have 3 Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and a cardiac rehabilitation team serving a population of approximately 150,000 and their role will incorporate care of patients with heart failure.

To support the roll out of the community hubs, some acute hospital gaps have also been addressed with funding being allocated for 17 whole time equivalent (WTE) Acute CVD clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and 16 Consultant Cardiologists. This Integrated Care Cardiology team will incorporate provision of care for heart failure patients, including the virtual consultation service for GPs.

An Integrated Care Cardiology team, including the acute staffing element of the team, costs approximately €655k per annum. This figure of €655k per annum includes cost of the virtual clinic component.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager