



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Date: 8th June 2022

Deputy Duncan Smith
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

PQ 26856/22 * To ask the Minister for Health if he has plans to establish a sickle cell and thalassaemia day centre; if he will meet with an association (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Response:

The growth in the numbers of patients with haemoglobinopathies attending child and adult clinics has led to increasing demands on the service in St James' Hospital and CHI at Crumlin Hospital.

The current adult service at St James's Hospital is well recognised for its expertise in this field. Since the service was set up in St James's Hospital 2014, service growth and development has been on going and the following has been achieved.

- Multidisciplinary outpatient clinics.
- Weekly MDT clinics • Transition clinics - regular collaboration and communication with CHI Crumlin – including monthly MDT clinics in CHI Crumlin .
- Multidisciplinary Team meetings (MDM) in CHI for discussion of complex cases resulting in advantages including shared learning and collaboration and clinical input into complex cases improving quality and patient safety.
- Development of maternity service in conjunction with Coombe hospital, with regular MDTs - 'Exemplary care provided, with seamless MDT involvement'. Dublin Midlands Hospital Group Serious Incident management Forum.
- Commercial clinical trial recently opened in sickle cell disease in clinical research facility, SJH.

Considerable resources have been allocated to date and with the co-location of the National Children's Hospital on the St James' Hospital campus a proposal for the expansion of the adult haemoglobinopathy service has been under review.

Funding has been allocated in 2022 to St James's hospital for the transfer of 41 patients that are currently on a transfusion programme in Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Crumlin awaiting transition to the adult service in SJH. Further funding will be sought as part of the estimates process in 2023.

I trust that this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Dunne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Dunne
General Manager
Acute Operations