



Easlamhannacha na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



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PQ – 48349/22

Deputy Sean Sherlock
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

To ask the Minister for Health the status of a pilot programme in Mallow General Hospital

Dear Deputy Sherlock

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

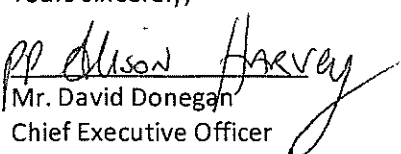
Since the 1st of September, Mallow General Hospital and the National Ambulance Service have been engaged in a pilot programme aimed at assessing the safety of the ambulances bringing patients, after clinical assessment, to Mallow General Hospital, which does not have an emergency department.

The pilot programme is part of the HSE's efforts to address long waiting times in hospitals and works as follows. When a former inpatient at Mallow General Hospital requires further medical attention, and it has been not more than fourteen days since their date of discharge, the attending ambulance crew will contact a dedicated phone number. The patient's consultant will then decide if the patient should be returned to Mallow General Hospital or brought directly to the nearest Emergency Department.

There are strict clinical and geographic criteria that must be met before the patient is brought to Mallow General Hospital

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,


Mr. David Donegan
Chief Executive Officer