

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine Aonad <u>4A</u> – 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.

24th October, 2022

Deputy Devlin Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2.

PQ 51387/22 To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on plans to support women who were impacted by mesh implants; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Devlin,

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.

With regards to supporting women who were impacted by mesh implants, the NWHIP in 2020 funded a multi-disciplinary National Mesh Complications Service across 2 centres – National Maternity Hospital (NMH) in Dublin and Cork's University Maternity Hospital (CUMH), to provide expert specialist care to women requiring mesh removal. This is one service across two centres with both centres fully operational. Two full time administrators have been assigned to the Mesh Complications Service with the purpose of assisting patients in navigating the pathways and services.

A women can be referred to the National Mesh Complications Service by their primary Consultant or GP via the designated email pathway. Information on referral pathways to the Mesh Complications Service was circulated by the National Director of Acute Operations to all Hospital Groups. Additionally the information was shared by the NCAGL for Primary Care to General Practitioners nationally.

These centres have clear dedicated MDT treatment pathways for women with post mesh complications. Patients will be supported along their journey with the input of specialist physiotherapists, pain specialists, clinical nurse specialists and psychological counselling, as required. Further information is available at the HSE Vaginal Mesh Implant homepage: <u>https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/acute-hospitals-division/woman-infants/vaginal-mesh-implants/</u>

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

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Robert Kidd Assistant National Director Acute Operations