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3rd May 2023

Deputy Ivana Bacik T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
E: ivana.bacik@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 16877/23 – Bowel Cancer

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who were previously diagnosed with bowel cancer and who are waiting for a recommended follow-up colonoscopy in the Ireland East Hospital Group in each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022, and to-date in 2023, by each hospital and waiting time period, in tabular form.”

Dear Deputy Bacik,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking the number of persons who were previously diagnosed with bowel cancer in the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined, please see data below:

The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	Previously diagnosed with bowel cancer	2020	2021	2022	2023
		107	145	129	21
	Waiting for a recommended follow-up colonoscopy	2020	2021	2022	2023
		0	0	4	3
The 4 Colonoscopies outstanding from 2022 and the 3 for 2023 will all be completed by end of May 2023.					
St Columcille's Hospital	2020	12			
	2021	15			
	2022	11			
	2023 YTD	6			



Regional Hospital Mullingar	<p>Regional Hospital Mullingar do not have data available on the number of persons who were previously diagnosed with bowel cancer and who are waiting for a recommended follow-up colonoscopy in each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023.</p> <p>The guidelines are that patients who have had bowel cancer resected with curative intent should have a Colonoscopy at Year 1, 4, 9 and then every 5 years thereafter.</p> <p>RHM patients are scheduled for appointment through a Surveillance Waiting List or are booked as they attend an Outpatient Appointment. Other patients may be having treatment elsewhere or be referred having had treatment elsewhere.</p>
St Vincent's University Hospital	<p>I have had this matter examined and am advised that colonoscopies are normally conducted by the Endoscopy Department in St. Vincent's University Hospital in a timely manner, including for those patients who require follow up and were previously diagnosed with bowel cancer. The Cancer Directorate and Clinical Support Service are currently examining ways in which data relating to patients for follow up who were previously diagnosed with bowel cancer can be isolated within the colonoscopy waiting list and reported.</p>
St Luke's General Hospital	<p>I wish to advise you that patients who require surveillance colonoscopy are placed on the planned surveillance waiting list in St Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny. We do not, however, have sub-categories within the surveillance waiting list of "bowel cancer diagnosis" and, therefore, I am unable to furnish you with this particular information for the years requested.</p> <p>The surveillance endoscopy waiting list is a standing item on the Endoscopy Governance Committee Meeting, which is convened monthly, and we have a dedicated Advance Nurse Practitioner who manages, validates and reports on the surveillance waiting list within the relevant management guidelines (BSG, CSSG & ACPGBI).</p>
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	<p>Our Lady's Hospital, Navan hold a surveillance colonoscopy list but not for patients previously diagnosed with bowel cancer.</p>
St Michael's Hospital	<p>Any patient diagnosed with Colorectal cancer is referred to the Colorectal Cancer service in SVUH for further management and we would not see them again in SMH. Therefore, we do not have a waiting list for surveillance.</p>
Wexford General Hospital	<p>We have a significant surveillance waiting list at Wexford General Hospital. However, it is not possible to identify how many of these patients were previously diagnosed with Bowel Cancer.</p>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gallagher
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery

