



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 Colm Burke, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 7216/23

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of care for patients with end-stage renal failure in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Burke,

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 Renal Office (NRO) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The NRO monitors closely the number of patients with end-stage renal failure, also known as end-stage kidney disease (ESKD) receiving treatment in Ireland. These patients are treated either by dialysis or kidney transplantation.

In 2022, the number of patients requiring treatment by dialysis or kidney transplantation increased to 5,077 adults and 71 children. On January 1, 2023, the number of patients receiving dialysis was 2,466, with a further 2,682 patients living with a functional kidney transplant.

The cost of providing care for patients with end stage renal failure can be broken down to outpatient dialysis treatment, inpatient dialysis care and care of patients with kidney transplantation. The total is estimated to be in excess of €352 million per annum.

These costs are detailed below.

Outpatient dialysis care

The costs of providing In-Centre Haemodialysis is €228 million per annum broken down to €154.5 million for treatment in HSE hospitals and €73.5 million for treatment in HSE contracted satellite dialysis units. The costs of providing home dialysis therapy is €15 million per annum.

Inpatient dialysis care

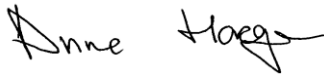
Patients on dialysis require inpatient care to treat the complications of dialysis. This is estimated to be in excess of 75,000 bed days and cost an additional €65 million per annum

Kidney Transplant care

The costs associated with the provision of immunosuppressive therapy and close monitoring of kidney transplant patients is estimated as €27 million per year. In 2022, 163 kidney transplants were carried out by the National Transplant Programme at a cost of €17 million.

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