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Deputy Duncan Smith
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

1758/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the national policy or strategy on single-room accommodation in acute hospitals in regard to preventing the spread of hospital-acquired infection and prevention of deaths resulting therefrom; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Duncan Smith

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 to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The prevention and control of hospital acquired infection is a priority of the HSE and guidance on management of patient accommodation in this regard is included within the guidance documents below. This guidance is applied by the hospitals within the context of local risk assessment and service demand.

Infection Control Guiding Principles for Buildings Acute Hospitals and Community Settings:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/infectionpreventionandcontrolguidance/buildingsandfacilitiesguidance/Infection%20Control%20Guiding%20Principles%20for%20Building.pdf>

Acute Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Precautions for Possible or Confirmed COVID-19 in a Pandemic Setting:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/infectionpreventionandcontrolguidance/InfectionPreventionandControlPrecautionsforAcuteSettings.pdf>

AMRIC Priority Guide for isolation:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/microbiologyantimicrobialresistance/infectioncontrolandhai/guidelines/priority%20guide%20for%20isolation.pdf>

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



Therese Dalchan
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CC: Prof. Mary Day, National Director, Acute Operations
Dr. Eimear Brannigan, AMRIC Clinical Lead
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