



Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Aonad 7A, Áras
Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, Baile Átha Cliath 8
T: 076 695 9991

National Women and Infants Health Programme
Health Service Executive, Unit 7A, The Dargan Building,
Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8
T: 076 695 9991

09th August 2023

Deputy John Paul Phelan
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 35965/23: To ask the Minister for Health the funding streams available for diabetes care for women with gestational diabetes mellitus; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Phelan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position on the various areas and issues you raised.

The HSE annual planning process is the mechanism under which service priorities are identified and prioritised. The annual estimates process is the first step in the annual planning process. As part of this process the HSE undertakes a review of its services and resources and communicates its requirements and priority areas to the Department of Health. As per Table 4 of the HSE Annual Service Plan, funding of 2.3m was provided in 2023 for multiple diabetes initiatives.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/serviceplans/national-service-plan-2023.pdf>

Care for women with gestational diabetes mellitus is a priority specialist area named in the National Maternity Strategy 2016-2026 and the associated implementation action plan. The National Women and Infants Health Programme is responsible for the implementation of the Strategy and has made considerable investment in this area of care for women over the last number of years. As highlighted in the table below, dedicated resources have been put in place across the maternity infrastructure to support pregnant women diagnosed with gestational diabetes.

Initiative	Location	Grade
Maternity Development	Rotunda Hospital	Senior Dietician (Diabetes in pregnancy service)
Maternity Development	Rotunda Hospital	Clinical Specialist Dietician (NICU)
Maternity Development	Our Lady of Lourdes Drogheda/CHG	Senior Dietician (Diabetes in pregnancy service)
Maternity Development	Cork University Maternity Hospital	CMS Diabetes
Maternity Development	South Tipperary General	CMS Diabetes
Maternity Development	University Hospital Galway	CMS Diabetes
Maternity Development	The Coombe Women and Infant University Hospital	AMP Diabetes

Maternity Development	St Luke's General Kilkenny	CMS - Diabetes
Maternity Development	Wexford General	CMS - Diabetes
Maternity Development	Wexford General	Dietician Senior
Maternity Development	Cork University Maternity Hospital	AMP - Assisted Care Pathway / Diabetes
Maternity Development	Cork University Hospital	Uplift to Clinical specialist dietician post
Maternity Development	Portiuncula University	Clinical Midwife Specialist - Diabetes
Maternity Development	Sligo University	Clinical Midwife Specialist - Diabetes
Maternity Development	Letterkenny	Clinical Midwife Specialist - Diabetes
Maternity Development	Mayo University	Clinical Midwife Specialist - Diabetes
Maternity Development	University Maternity Hospital Limerick	Clinical Midwife Specialist – Diabetes
Maternity Development	National Maternity Hospital	AMP Diabetes
Maternity Development	Letterkenny University Hospital	AMP Diabetes
Maternity Development	Cork University Maternity Hospital	AMP Diabetes
Maternity Development	Rotunda Hospital	AMP Diabetes
Maternity Development	Coombe Hospital	AMP Diabetes

The Chronic Disease Management (CDM) Programme has also prioritised care for women with gestational diabetes mellitus. As part of the continued roll-out of the Enhanced Community Care (ECC) Programme, diabetes initiatives around gestational diabetes mellitus are being introduced, in the community setting, for patients in the CDM prevention programme.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme