



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Brendan Smith  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

**22322/23 - To ask the Minister for Health if there are statistics available in relation to the number of patients admitted to hospital as a direct result of the effects of the use of e-cigarettes and vaping; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Brendan 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.

As you are aware, Hospital Inpatient Enquiry (HIPE) is a health information system, managed by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) of HSE Finance and is designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. HIPE discharges are clinically coded from charts in the hospitals, this includes translating medical terminology into alpha-numeric code and using the entire chart to extract the conditions and procedures to create an adequate picture of the patient's health care encounter.

Please see attached the number of discharges in HIPE with the diagnosis code U07.0 for vaping related illness. The code U07.0 has been effective from January 1st 2020 therefore we can provide data for 2020, 2021 and 2022. Please note that the HPO does not disclose cells where the number of discharges reported to HIPE is five or less. Therefore, values between one and five must be suppressed and are replaced by ~.

For particular attention, please see the detail in the *notes* and *definitions* in the attached data template for consideration in this context.

I trust the available data, as attached, is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Nessa Lynch**  
General Manager  
Acute Operations