

Office of the Head of Primary Care South East Community Healthcare HSE Offices, Lacken Dublin Road Kilkenny

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16th May 2023

Ms. Verona Murphy TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ 22783/23

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to provide a dedicated chronic disease clinic in Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following response outlines the current position.

To implement Slaintecare 2017, the Integrated Care Programme for the Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease (ICPCD) supports the national implementation of a model of integrated care for the prevention and management of chronic disease as part of the Enhanced Community Care Programme (ECC).

The ICPCD aims to support evidence based GP-led care for individuals with specific chronic diseases in the community, focusing on patients enrolled on the GP Chronic Disease Management Programme. The GP Programme focuses on the four major chronic diseases: Cardiovascular Disease (CVD), Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder (COPD), Asthma and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (DM).

Aligned with this model, the Wexford Chronic Disease Management Team supports GPs by providing access to Cardiologist-led cardiovascular clinics, pulmonary rehabilitation, respiratory physiotherapy, structured education on type II diabetes self-management and diabetes prevention, one-to-one dietetic services, diabetes podiatry, diabetes clinical nurse specialist services and a smoking cessation service.

While the team's hub is located in Enniscorthy Primary Care Centre, clinics take place in Enniscorthy, Wexford town, Gorey and New Ross

The Wexford Chronic Disease Management Team has approved staffing for 32.2 whole time equivalents (WTE) and current staffing of 15.2 WTE consisting of a 0.5 WTE Consultant Cardiologist, Clinical Nurse

Specialists (CNS's), Physiotherapists, Dieticians, Podiatrists, Psychology, and administration staff. Further recruitment is progressing in relation to CNS's, Nurses and Podiatrists.

Governance groups have been established to map care pathways and ensure services are integrated and streamlined between Acute Hospitals and Primary Care.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Marie Lanigan

Head of Service-Primary Care/Assistant National Director

South East Community Healthcare