

13th February 2024

Deputy Richard Bruton, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 54307/23

To ask the Minister for Health whether his Department has articulated a policy on the roll-out of pulmonary rehabilitation for those patients suffering with lung fibrosis; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ 56823/23

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Dear Deputy Bruton,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question(s), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with both the National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead for Chronic Disease (NCAGL CD) and the National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Respiratory (incorporating COPD & Asthma) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

Pulmonary rehabilitation and care needs for patients with interstitial lung disease (ILD) or lung fibrosis necessitate dedicated specialists in a suitable environment to care for and rehabilitate these patients and intervene to mitigate any clinical risks during a pulmonary rehabilitation session.

I am advised that hospital-based pulmonary rehabilitation is provided for pulmonary (lung) fibrosis patients in many acute hospitals, including the following (as of January 2024):

- St James' Hospital (SJH), Dublin;
- Tallaght University Hospital (TUH), Dublin;
- University Hospital, Limerick (UHL);
- Merlin Park University Hospital, Galway;
- Regional Hospital Tullamore;
- Tipperary University Hospital, Clonmel;
- St Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin;
- Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, Dublin.

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