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8th April 2025

Deputy Charles Ward Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ ref 17681/25

"To ask the Minister for Health her plans to provide a specialist lymphedema clinic in Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Ward,

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 for Integrated Healthcare Area Donegal.

A specialist lymphoedema service was established within Community Healthcare, Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo (CH CDLMS) Primary Care Service in Co. Donegal on 16th January 2023, with two full-time specialist lymphoedema clinicians and one full-time therapy assistant.

The service operates from Monday to Friday in two locations, the Primary Care Centre in Letterkenny and Mountcharles Health Centre. Referrals to the service are accepted from a range of healthcare professionals, including consultants, GPs, nurses and other health and social care professionals. The clinic aims to support patients with lymphoedema and lipoedema to ensure they are diagnosed in a timely manner and referred for treatment to limit disease progression.

The following interventions can be provided to patients who access the service:

- ✓ Compression Therapy
- ✓ Manual Lymph Drainage
- ✓ Skincare
- Exercise and Movement
- Education for both patients and healthcare professionals is provided locally by the service.

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely

Mandy Doyle Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall Liatroim Muineachán Sligeach

Head of Service, Primary Care Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo