

Cork University Hospitals Group
Wilton
Cork
T12 DC4A
Tel: 021 – 4922473

Date: 12th February 2025

PQ – 3090/25

Deputy Eoghan Kenny
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

To ask the Minister for Health the reason Mallow General Hospital is being used to facilitate an overflow of medical patients from Cork University Hospital; to provide a definite date when the day ward will return to normal in Mallow General Hospital; the number of patients that have been transferred to Mallow General Hospital Day ward from Cork University Hospital since the beginning of 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Kenny

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.

The Elective Day Ward in Mallow General Hospital has re-opened for day cases, this was only closed for day case admissions for 10 days.

Mallow General Hospital as part of the South West Region and the South/South West Hospital Group admits patients requiring acute hospital admission within the Cork Kerry region. There are different sources of admission to the hospital, most commonly but not limited to, via GP referral to the Medical Assessment Unit, via Ambulance transfer by the National Ambulance Service and via inter hospital transfer from other hospitals in the region. The demand for inpatient capacity has been significant within the region in recent weeks and all facilities have been utilised to optimise patient care. In accordance with the escalation policy within the region, and based on risk assessment of non-urgent / non- cancer related / non-time dependent surgical cases, a ward typically used for elective day case admissions at Mallow General Hospital has been utilised for inpatient admissions since 22/01/2025.

There has been 94 inter hospital transfers to Mallow General Hospital up to the 30th January 2025. 73 from Cork University Hospital, 20 from Mercy University Hospital and 4 from University Hospital Kerry.

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,

Ms. Deirdre O'Keefe

Interim Chief Executive Officer