

13th February 2025

Deputy Barry Ward TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 3920/25

Re: To ask the Minister for Health the patient capacity levels in a hospital (details supplied); the number of times this was exceeded in January 2025, by patient levels, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Barry Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

I am writing in response to your PQ regarding patient capacity levels at St. Michael's Hospital and the number of times capacity was exceeded in January 2025.

To provide context to the below data it is necessary to understand that when demand exceeds capacity, elective activity in the hospital is reduced. In St. Michaels this means that the 5-day elective surgical ward is converted to a 7-day ward and accommodates unscheduled patients rather than elective surgery. The data below outlines by date the volume of surgical beds used for escalation during the month of January 2025.

In summary:

- The 5-Day Surgical Ward has a standard capacity of 18 beds and has been in surge escalation since 31 Dec 2024.
- On 16th and 17th January, escalation peaked at 22 additional patients requiring the use of 4 additional escalation beds in the Endoscopy Day Ward (Ward 3) as per the hospital escalation plan.

Date	Capacity	Patient Count	Elective beds available to surgery
1st	18	6	12
2nd	18	8	10
3rd	18	11	7
4th	18	10	8
5th	18	16	2
6th	18	13	5
7th	18	12	6
8th	18	13	5
9th	18	13	5
10th	18	13	5
11th	18	14	4
12th	18	15	3
13th	18	18	0
14th	18	19	-1
15th	18	20	-2
16th	18	22	-4
17th	18	22	-4
18th	18	18	0
19th	18	18	0
20th	18	19	-1
21st	18	20	-2
22nd	18	18	0
23rd	18	18	0
24th	18	17	1
25th	18	18	0
26th	18	19	-1
27th	18	18	0
28th	18	18	0
29th	18	18	0
30th	18	19	-1
31st	18	20	-2

Should you require any further assistance or additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Ryan
Chief Executive Officer St. Michael's Hospital