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Date: 5th March 2025

PQ – 7631/25

Deputy Pádraig Rice
Dail Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

To ask the Minister for Health the reason Cork University Hospital is using beds originally intended for the dental treatment in Mallow General Hospital; the steps being taken to avoid the cancellations of dental services for patients with disabilities who require urgent treatment under general anaesthetic; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Rice


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 demand for inpatient capacity in January 2025 was significant within the region and all facilities were 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 was utilised for inpatient admissions for 10 days.

Following this 10 day period the ward returned to being used for elective day case admissions.

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