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**Deputy Sorcha Clarke,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.**

PQ Number: 35469/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the average cost of treating individuals with a dual diagnosis in community settings versus inpatient units; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Sorcha Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke,

According to the Model of Care launched in May 2023, Dual Diagnosis is defined as 'co-morbid disorders due to substance use and/or addictive behaviours along with the presence of mental disorder(s)'. The disorders of substance use include disorders of alcohol use, and the disorders of addictive behaviours will include Gambling and Gaming disorders.

Hence, service users present with wide variety of treatment needs depending on the complexity of their presentation and severity of their co-morbidity. Those presenting with Dual Diagnosis are currently managed by different services at present. This includes the HSE Drug and Alcohol Services, HSE Community Mental Health Teams, HSE Perinatal Psychiatry services, HSE Liaison Psychiatry services, HSE Crisis Resolution teams, HSE inpatient psychiatric units, voluntary hospitals, Section 38 agencies, charitable and voluntary bodies, private mental health services and private residential centres.

The intervention provided and the cost associated will vary based on the service providing care and the needs of the individual service user. The average cost of inpatient stay in public hospitals varies from €813 to €1279 or more per night. Furthermore, the average cost in private hospitals and cost of overnight bed in private residential centres can also vary widely across the country.

Similarly, the average cost of outpatient/community setting management of those with Dual Diagnosis will also vary widely depending on the individual needs of the service user, length of the service delivery and the number of multidisciplinary team members providing care.

Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor**