

Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin

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National Women and Infants Health Programme

Health Service Executive, The Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Dublin D08 X01F T: 076 695 9991

08/08/2025

Deputy Lawless, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ 41259/25: To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE and an organisation (the IMO (Irish Medical Organisation) have come to an agreement on the endometriosis framework; and if she will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Lawless,

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.

Endometriosis is one of the most common gynaecological conditions in Ireland and approximately 1 in 10 women may have this condition. Endometriosis is a challenging condition to treat due to its wide range of presentations, which can affect patients' physical and mental well-being at varying levels. The time required for diagnosis also differs from patient to patient because of the varying and often ambiguous symptoms associated with this chronic condition.

The HSE recognises that endometriosis care is challenging. For this reason, the management of endometriosis has been established as a key priority for the HSE, with significant progress achieved in recent years. Central to this improvement is the development of Ireland's first National Framework for the Management of Endometriosis, alongside the implementation of structured care pathways.

Two supra-regional specialist centres have been developed for the management of complex endometriosis, based in Tallaght University Hospital and Cork University Maternity Hospital. These services will be supported by five regional hubs for moderate cases. Recognising the wide-ranging impact of the condition, the HSE has funded multidisciplinary teams to deliver holistic, person-centred care.

The National Framework has undergone extensive multi-stakeholder consultation and engagement and discussions with the GP representative body are currently in progress. The HSE look forward to publishing this National Framework in due course.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Davinia O'Donnell, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme

