Deputy Pádraig Rice
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

29th July 2025

PQ 42596/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospitalisations due to urinary tract infections in women in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and the associated cost to the public health system, in each year. -Pádraig Rice

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.

Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) is a health information system, managed by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) of HSE Finance and is designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. HIPE discharges are clinically coded from charts in the hospitals, this includes translating medical terminology into alpha-numeric code and using the entire chart to extract the conditions and procedures to create an adequate picture of the patient's health care encounter.

Please see the included Excel file provided by HIPE, containing the requested information on discharges.

Information on costs is not available. The HPO uses the Diagnosis Related Groups (DRGs) to fund episodes of care. DRGs cannot be used to infer either a cost or price for the treatment of a particular diagnosis, or the provision of a particular intervention or procedure in isolation of the entire episode of care. The HPO does not provide pricing information for individual diagnoses, interventions or procedures.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Access and Intengration

Notes:

HIPE is a health information system designed to collect medical and administrative data regarding discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. All acute public hospitals participate in HIPE.
Please note that the 2020-2023 data provided does not include any public activity performed in private hospitals under the private hospital agreements that were in place in this year.
Day case and inpatient discharges are reported only; ED and out-patient attendances are not recorded on HIPE.

HIPE data is based on hospitalisations which may include multiple admissions for the same patient. Therefore, it is not possible to use HIPE to examine certain parameters such as the number of hospital encounters per patient, or to estimate incidence or prevalence of disease.

For every discharge HIPE captures a principal diagnosis and up to 29 additional diagnoses, and up to 20 procedures, in addition to administrative and demographic information.
Diagnosis and Procedures are coded using ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS (From 2020-2023 the 10th edition was used; From 2024 onwards the 12th edition is used).
ICD-10-AM is the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification.

The ICD-10-AM disease component is based on the World Health Organisation (WHO) ICD-10. ICD-10-AM is used in conjunction with the Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI), and the Australian Coding Standards (ACS) to reflect an accurate health episode of care.

Table: Number of female discharges from acute public hospitals with a UTI* principal diagnosis, reported to HIPE, 2020-2024.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
N	9,066	9,271	9,696	10,060	10,987

* The list of UTI (urinary tract infection) codes:
N39.0 *Urinary tract infection, site not specified*
O23.4 *Unspecified infection of urinary tract in pregnancy*
O86.2 *Urinary tract infection following delivery*