



Deputy Pádraig O'Sullivan  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

24<sup>th</sup> June 2025

***PQ 31057/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of presenting complaints or categories of presenting complaints, for patients attending emergency departments; if such data is retained and examined for planning and budgetary reasons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Pádraig O'Sullivan***

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

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.

Clarification was sought in relation to your question. Thank you for confirming admissions data would suffice in this regard, as presentation data is not collected by HIPE.

Please see the included Excel file provided by HIPE with tables titled '*Top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency in-patient discharges with mode of emergency admission '1 ED of the admitting hospital' reported to HIPE, in 2023 and 2024.*' This data aligns with the clarification received.

Further clarification was sought in relation to the healthcare services referenced in the latter part of your question. Unfortunately, this clarification was not provided in this instance.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Nessa Lynch  
General Manager  
Access & Integration

Filename: H250125\_PQ\_31057\_25\_HIPE\_information.xlsx  
Source : HIPE, Healthcare Pricing Office  
Data Used: HIPE\_2023\_ASOF\_0324\_V13\_CLOSE, HIPE\_2024\_ASOF\_0325\_V15\_CLOSE  
Date: June 2025

The information provided by the Healthcare Pricing Office will not be used for any other purpose other than stated and will not be given to or used by any third parties.  
The storage and distribution of this information is the sole responsibility of the recipient and should be carried out in accordance with HSE data protection guidelines.  
If information contained within this file are used in other reports then as a minimum requirement the source information must also be quoted.  
This file information should not be removed when storing, distributing, or displaying the information contained within this file.

Notes:  
Emergency in-patient discharges with mode of emergency admission '1 ED of the admitting hospital' are reported only, this includes discharges treated in ED prior to being admitted into the hospital; 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.  
Diagnosis and Procedures are coded using ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS (2020-2023 used 10th edition, from 2024 12th edition is used). This change in the coding classification needs to be considered when looking at the data across years.  
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  
From 2011 onwards HIPE collects a principal diagnosis and up to 29 additional diagnoses per discharge.

Definitions:  
Principal Diagnosis is the diagnosis established after study to be chiefly responsible for occasioning an episode of admitted patient care, an episode of residential care, or an attendance at the health care establishment, as represented by a code.  
Source: National Casemix and Classification Centre (NCCC), 2013: The International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (8th Ed): Australian Coding Standards. NCCC, Australian Health Services Research Institute, University of Wollongong.

Top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency in-patient discharges with mode of emergency admission '1 ED of the admitting hospital' reported to HIPE in 2023

ICD-10-AM diagnosis code	Diagnosis Description	Discharge Year 2023
N39	Other disorders of urinary system	9,994
J44	Other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	9,160
J18	Pneumonia; organism unspecified	8,560
J22	Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection	8,028
R55	Syncope and collapse	6,656
R10	Abdominal and pelvic pain	5,930
R07	Pain in throat and chest	5,824
S72	Fracture of femur	4,788
I50	Heart failure	4,743
A09	Other gastroenteritis and colitis of infectious and unspecified origin	4,660

Top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency in-patient discharges with mode of emergency admission '1 ED of the admitting hospital' reported to HIPE in 2024

ICD-10-AM diagnosis code	Diagnosis Description	Discharge Year 2024
N39	Other disorders of urinary system	11,272
J18	Pneumonia; organism unspecified	11,216
J44	Other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	10,653
J22	Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection	10,037
R55	Syncope and collapse	7,137
R10	Abdominal and pelvic pain	6,368
A09	Other gastroenteritis and colitis of infectious and unspecified origin	6,190
R07	Pain in throat and chest	5,715
I50	Heart failure	5,276
K35	Acute appendicitis	5,213

