



Oifig na Bainisteoir Limistéar Sláinte  
Comhtháite Chiarraí

FSS Iardheiscirt, Ráth Teas, Tra Lí, Contae  
Chiarraí, V92 YA25

Office of the Integrated Healthcare  
Manager Kerry

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26<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Deputy Pa Daly,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 11869/25**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the steps she is taking to establish a minor injuries clinic at UHK; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Deputy Daly,

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.

The HSE's Emergency Medicine Programme (EMP) recommended the establishment of Injury Units (IUs) to provide unscheduled emergency care for patients with non-life threatening or limb threatening injuries, as conveniently as possible, while ensuring patient safety and equitable standards of care within an Emergency Care Network. These units typically provide care for non-life threatening or limb-threatening injuries which are unlikely to lead to hospital admission.

The new Minor Injury Unit which is planned for the Kerry area will be located on the grounds of St Columbanus Home in Killarney. A new Community Nursing Unit (CNU) is currently being built on the grounds of the old St Finan's Hospital in Killarney. When completed, the residents and staff from St. Columbanus will transfer to Killarney CNU. Work on this new CNU is progressing well and it is anticipated that the Unit will open in Q4 2025. When the new Killarney CNU is completed, and the residents and staff have transferred, works will then commence on the St. Columbanus site to develop the new Minor Injury Unit.

At UHK, comprising part of the Acute Floor Emergency Department, is the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) stream. This stream, which typically operates 9am – 9pm Monday -Sunday is specifically for non-life and non-limb threatening injuries and is under the operational governance of the Emergency Department Consultants at UHK. The ANP stream enables patients who attend the Emergency Department (with Minor Injuries) to be treated quickly and efficiently.

Any decision to develop a Minor Injury Unit at University Hospital Kerry (UHK) or indeed any additional Minor Injury Units in the HSE South West Region will be done in line with the HSE's Strategic Framework for Population Based Planning (PBP). This framework will assist in the planning and prioritise of services which achieve the best possible population health outcomes within available resources.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms. Julie O' Neill**  
**Integrated Healthcare Area Manager Kerry**  
**HSE South West**