



27 May 2025

Deputy Seán Ó Fearghaíl, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 24130/25

To ask the Minister for Health her plans to develop more regional inpatient rehabilitation beds; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

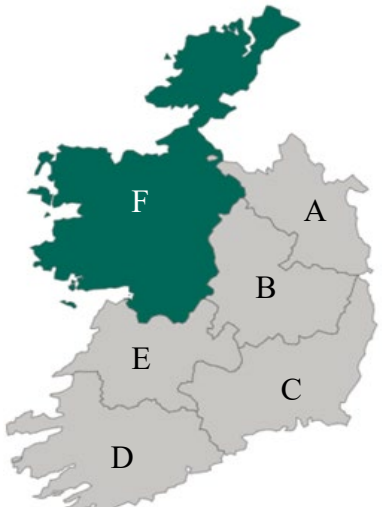
Dear Deputy Ó Fearghaíl,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead for Older Persons (NCAGL OP) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

Below is a table as published through the HSE's rehabilitation mapping project as outlined in the HSE's Post-Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation Service Provision Report: A National Overview of HSE Funded Services (2024)^{1, 2}.

This mapping project was a point-prevalence exercise, undertaken at a point in time and was realised through collaboration between several HSE National Clinical Programmes, namely the National Office for Trauma Services, the National Clinical Programme for Rehabilitation Medicine, the National Clinical Programme for Stroke, the National Neuro-Rehabilitation Strategy and the National Clinical Programme for Older People. The project was commissioned to gain an objective understanding of the capacity and capability of existing post-acute inpatient rehabilitation services in Ireland.

This survey was conducted in 2023. To align with recently implemented Health Regions, where possible and most relevant, findings have also been presented per Health Region. The report outlines the process of mapping data on the provision of post-acute inpatient rehabilitation and presents a series of recommendations with regard to rehabilitation service provision in Ireland.

Health Region	Number of rehabilitation beds	Average number of beds per 100,000 population	
National Average	206	26	
HSE Dublin & North East	370	31.3	
HSE Dublin & Midlands	219	20.3	
HSE Dublin & South East (Excluding National Tertiary Centre)	392 280	40.4 28.8	
HSE South West	163	22.1	
HSE Mid-West	84	20.7	
HSE West & North West	108	14.2	
Total	1,336		

The project's scope explored post-acute adult inpatient services, funded by the HSE and providing dedicated multidisciplinary rehabilitation. The survey identified a total of 1,336 beds in Ireland providing post-acute inpatient rehabilitation across acute and community settings. Most rehabilitation units were co-located on the same site as long or short-stay care units (page 30)².

To strategically build integrated rehabilitation services and achieve equitable and timely access to quality services for all patient populations, including those with multiple and complex rehabilitation needs, the report lists five recommendations for consideration. One such recommendation is that population modelling should be undertaken, to identify patient epidemiology and the demand for post-acute rehabilitation.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager

References

1. <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/rehabilitation-medicine/resources/hse-rehabilitation-mapping-report-summary.pdf>
2. <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/rehabilitation-medicine/resources/hse-rehabilitation-mapping-report.pdf>