



Ceann na Seirbhíse do Dhaoine Scothaosta
FSS an Iardheiscirt
Teach Caha,
Páirc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta,
Bóthar na Modh Feirme,
Corcaigh

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13th October 2025

Deputy John Paul O'Shea, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 54432/25:

"To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the Integrated Care Programme for Older People in Mallow; and if she will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy O'Shea,

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 Integrated Care Programme for Older Persons (ICPOP) forms part of the Slaintecare Implementation Plan (2021-2023) and seeks to ensure older people with complex care needs can access care quickly, at or near home, through care pathways specifically designed for older people and targeting Frailty, Falls and Dementia.

ICPOP hubs provide a specialist programme of care to older persons with complex needs and frailty with the goal of helping them to stay safe and well in their own homes for as long as possible. The hubs provide rapid access to specialist multidisciplinary assessment for older people who are at risk of hospital attendance or admission and require specialist intervention to maintain in the community. The hub teams include Consultant Geriatricians, NCHDs, Specialist Nurses, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Dietitians, Clerical Staff and Rehab Assistants. The ICPOP service is accessible to all older persons in Cork and Kerry via their GP, including residents who reside in residential care facilities (RCFs). In this way, ICPOP provides an alternative option to unplanned hospital admissions where appropriate.

There are currently three ICPOP Ambulatory Care 'hubs' operational in Cork and Kerry – 1 in Cork South, 1 in Cork North City and 1 in Kerry. There are 2 further hubs in development – one in ICPOP Cork North (Mallow) and a satellite hub in Bantry.

In relation to the integrated care hub in Cork North (Mallow), the majority of the ICPOP Team has been recruited for this location. Interim clinical governance options are being explored by HSE South West at regional level to enable the team to stand up the Mallow ICPOP service while awaiting appointment of a Consultant Geriatrician to the hub. Stakeholders and services in the region will be kept updated in this regard.

I trust this clarifies the position and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Daly
Head of Service for Older Persons