



04 November 2025

Deputy Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 57125/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the person or body responsible for the designation and delivery of centres of excellence for diabetes care in hospitals across the State; and the criteria they adhere to.

Dear Deputy Mac Lochlainn,

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 Programme (NCP) for Diabetes on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The National Clinical Programme for Diabetes works closely with the other National Clinical Programmes, under the remit of the National Clinical Advisory Group Lead for Chronic Disease. This work is carried out as part of a National Integrated Care Programme for the Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease.

Focus is on integrated care (care integrated across primary, secondary, and tertiary care services) for chronic disease. This builds on existing policies, and aligns with Sláintecare principles of delivering the right care to the right person at the right time. The HSE National Framework for the Integrated Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease sets out the continuum of care that should be available for all individuals living with chronic disease, including diabetes, to support the delivery of end-to-end care from prevention of diabetes and its associated complications, to specialist hospital services.

Funding was allocated in 2021 and 2022 to strengthen the community-based services in the prevention and management of diabetes as part of the HSE's Enhanced Community Care (ECC) Programme. As part of this ECC programme, funding was allocated to support delivery of high quality diabetes care in the acute hospitals. Data shows positive outcomes related to the ECC programme in terms of improvements in risk factors for diabetes and indicators of disease control, as well as in terms of driving more timely access to scheduled care.

The term 'centres of excellence' is not currently used formally in the context of diabetes care in Ireland. Rather, focus is on the specific services available to people living with diabetes in their region.

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