



03 September 2025

Deputy Colm Burke, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 45033/25

To ask the Minister for Health the measures her Department plans to implement to ensure that each severe asthma clinic has a qualified advanced nurse practitioner; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Burke,

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 Respiratory on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

Improving the management of patients with asthma and severe asthma remains a priority for the HSE. The National Clinical Programme for Respiratory was set up to support quality and access to respiratory services for respiratory patients, including patients living with asthma. The programme structure includes a subgroup for severe asthma advice. This National Severe Asthma Advisory Group (SAAG), a sub-group of the National Clinical Programme for Respiratory, collaborates with the HSE's Access and Integration Drug Management Programme (AIDMP) and Medicines Management Programme (MMP) to support therapies for severe asthma.

In line with international evidence and practice, the recommendation from the SAAG is that all asthma clinics are multi-disciplinary and provide best practice evidence based care.

The implementation of the Asthma Model of Care¹ [Part 1 adult asthma] is being supported by the HSE's Enhanced Community Care (ECC) funded model. 30 Chronic Disease Community Specialist Teams are being established in 30 Specialist Ambulatory Care Hubs to provide specialist, multidisciplinary care as close to home as possible. There are a number of clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and advanced nurse practitioners (ANPs) funded by this programme to support the management of asthma, including severe asthma across all hospitals and the community.

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

Reference

1. <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/ncpr/asthma/moc/>