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PQ 46375/25: To ask the Minister for Health the number and percentage of prostate cancer cases diagnosed at stage three or four in each of the past five years; and the steps being taken to improve earlier detection rates.

Dear Deputy O 'Flynn,

The most recently available data on the number and percentage of prostate cancer cases diagnosed at stage three or four can be found in the NCRI's latest report: Cancer in Ireland 1994–2021 – Annual Statistical Report <https://www.ncri.ie/en/reports-publications/reports/cancer-in-ireland-1994-2021-annual-statistical-report-of-the-national>. The NCRI publish updated data when it is available.

Steps being taken to improve earlier detection rates for prostate cancer:

The NCCP is committed to early diagnosis and treatment of Prostate Cancer. Significant investment has been made in the development of a national network of National Rapid Access Prostate Clinics (RAPC). These are located at the following eight cancer centres:

1. Beaumont University Hospital
2. Cork University Hospital
3. Galway University Hospital
4. Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
5. St James's University Hospital
6. St Vincent's University Hospital
7. University Hospital Limerick
8. University Hospital Waterford

Development of NCCP GP Referral Guidelines and E-Referral have facilitated the safe GP referral of men suspected with prostate cancer to one of the Rapid Access Prostate Clinics (RAPC)

www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/resources/gpreferrals/nccp-prostate-cancer-gp-referral-guideline.pdf

The NCCP has developed the patient booklet **"Having your Prostate Checked: A Guide"** for anyone who is thinking about having their prostate checked. This has

received the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) "Plain English" award. The NCCP worked with prostate cancer survivors to develop this booklet.

www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/patient/leaflets/having-your-prostate-checked-a-guide.pdf

Yours sincerely,

Ms Fiona Bonas
Assistant National Director,
National Cancer Control Programme

