



**Galway
University
Hospitals**

Ospidéal na h-Ollscoile Gaillimh
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GALWAY
MERLIN PARK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

11th April 2019

PQ 13646/19 To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether a failure to immediately isolate a person suspected to have an active is a failure to take a reasonable precaution to prevent persons from contracting infectious diseases while in Galway University Hospital around the time of the tuberculosis outbreak at the hospital in the past year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Catherine Connolly

Dear Deputy Connolly

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above, the following outlines the situation.

The hospital has in place policies, procedures and guidelines for the prevention and control of infection within Galway University Hospitals. There is a specific Infection Prevention and Control guidelines in place on Tuberculosis.

Patients with known or suspected pulmonary Tuberculosis in Galway University Hospitals are admitted to an isolation room and full Infection Prevention and Control measures are put in place as per Hospital Guidelines.

When a case of TB disease is diagnosed the Hospital works with the HSE Department of Public Health to provide screening for the family and for patients and staff who had close contact with the person if required, in line with best medical practice.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely



Chris Kane
General Manager
Galway University Hospitals