Integrated Care Programme for CHILDREN

The Integrated Care Programme (ICP) for Children ensures that children and their families can access safe, high-quality care in the right place, at the right time. ICP for Children aims to structure all relevant children’s health projects into one coherent, overarching, systematic programme, so that services can be experienced without duplication or fragmentation.

Demographics

- Children (0-16 years) make up 25% of the population.
- Approximately 20% of children who attend EDs are admitted.
- Over 1/4 of Irish 9-year-olds are overweight or obese.
- 6% of the population have a disability.

Advances in Care

- An implementation plan for the National Model of Care for Paediatric Healthcare Services is being designed.
- Consultant-delivered services are being implemented in Waterford University Hospital.
- Integrated care pathways are being developed for children with neuromuscular disorders as well as for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- In 2017, 4 sonographers were assigned to four pilot hospital sites to screen new born babies at high risk of Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH). As a result, approximately 2,100 babies will be screened annually.

Featuring - Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH)

A targeted screening programme for infants at risk of Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH) has been designed in conjunction with the Health and Wellbeing Child Health Review Steering Group.

The programme provides targeted hip screening nationally, aimed at high-risk infants (20% of the population) who receive an ultrasound scan at 6 weeks of age.

Early diagnosis helps to avoid impaired hip function and premature degenerative joint disease.

DDH screening will result in:

- Better patient outcomes.
- Earlier detection and onward referral for earlier intervention.
- Decrease in inappropriate referrals to busy acute services.
- Reduced costs for the health service.

The information presented is not representative of formal/national KPI indicators but rather information extracted based on a pioneer demonstrator project.

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