



PAEDIATRICS

A NATIONAL MODEL OF CARE FOR PAEDIATRIC HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN IRELAND

CHAPTER 12: PAEDIATRIC ANAESTHESIA



Féidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Stáite
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**ROYAL
COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS
OF IRELAND**

PAEDIATRIC ANAESTHESIA

The National Clinical Programme for Anaesthesia published the Paediatric Anaesthesia Model of Care in April 2015, which details what is required to set up a network to safely deliver anaesthesia to children in the Republic of Ireland.

This model of care proposes a 'hub and spoke' model with the new children's hospital linked with three to four regional centres, all of which will provide 24-hour paediatric surgical, anaesthesia and peri-operative care. These regional centres will then be linked to other hospitals in their areas which will provide paediatric surgery, anaesthesia and peri-operative care to healthy children for routine operations in an age group that would be appropriate for those hospitals. The document also recommends national guidelines and the establishment of quality improvement networks to improve the outcome and quality of service provided to children undergoing anaesthesia. At present, there are no national performance measurement guidelines or quality improvement initiatives for Paediatric Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine in Ireland. In terms of service delivery, considerable gaps have been identified between current staffing levels, what is needed to deliver current service requirements and what will be required to meet future service needs.

The Paediatric Anaesthesia Model of Care is available here:

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/clinical/natclinprog/anaesthesia/modelofcare/paediatricanaesthesia.pdf>

This Model of Care should be considered in conjunction with the overall Model of Care for Paediatrics and Neonatology, and the Model of Care for Non-specialist Paediatric Surgery.