



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Alan Kelly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

19th February 2024

PQ 49707/23 – To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of the number of in-patients in each acute hospital over the years 2012-2022 that have been admitted for more than one year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

HIPE is a health information system, managed by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) of HSE Finance and is designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. HIPE discharges are clinically coded from charts in the hospitals, this includes translating medical terminology into alpha-numeric code and using the entire chart to extract the conditions and procedures to create an adequate picture of the patient's health care encounter.

Please see the included Excel file: Number of inpatient discharges from acute hospitals reported to HIPE that have been admitted for more than one year (365 days), 2012-2022, by hospital and year.

Please note: *The reason that a patient is in hospital for an extended or extreme duration is not recorded on HIPE and therefore no conclusions can be drawn about the cause of such long episodes in hospital. It should also be noted that many of the reported cases represent very extreme and unusual cases which should not be interpreted as being indicative of either the average length of stay in a given hospital or any systematic problem with delay discharges in a hospital.*

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Acute Operations