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29th September 2020

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 25831/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients that were referred to acute stroke units in each of the CHOs in each month since January 2020; the names and locations of each of the units; the number of persons referred to the aforementioned acute stroke services from outside of their CHO areas due to stroke services in their own areas being out of hours in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Stroke on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

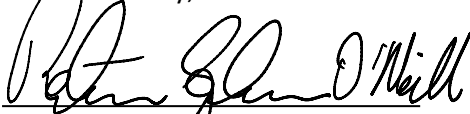
The National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Stroke has confirmed the data requested is not available. The below table highlights the number of stroke patients for each of the stroke units across the country for 2018 (which is the most recent data available as the Irish National Audit of Stroke for 2019 will be finalised by the National Office of Clinical Audit (NOCA) later this year).

Hospital	HIPE i61, i63, i64 cases
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda	217
Cavan General Hospital	151
Beaumont Hospital	578
Bantry University Hospital	82
Letterkenny University Hospital	163
St Lukes's Hospital Kilkenny	126
University Hospital Waterford	139
Mayo University Hospital	162
St James's Hospital	264
Tallaght University Hospital	266
Connolly Hospital	168
Galway University Hospital	304
Cork University Hospital	527
Portiuncula University Hospital	75
St Vincent's University Hospital	428
Mercy University Hospital	95
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	81
Naas General Hospital	203
Wexford General Hospital	160
Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar	126
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	382
University Hospital Limerick	366
South Tipperary Hospital Clonmel	112
Sligo University Hospital	143
Kerry University Hospital	194

The NCP for Stroke advises any patient suffering a stroke should be brought to the closest stroke unit. All hospitals receiving acute stroke patients should have an acute stroke unit and should provide 24/7 acute stroke care and treatment. All patients admitted should have access to emergency acute stroke assessment and treatment by stroke specialist. This can occur in person or by telemedicine. The primary reasons why a patient may be admitted to a unit other than their local stroke unit would be for thrombectomy services which are provided at Cork University Hospital and Beaumont Hospital. There are also some admissions each year of patients to hospitals without stroke units, this might occur if the patient presents themselves, but the majority now will be brought by ambulance to closest stroke unit.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Patricia Gilsean O'Neill
General Manager