



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An  
Bóthar Míleata, Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha  
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Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

4<sup>th</sup> July 2024

***PQ 26750/24: To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of the number of disease-protected hospital beds in Ireland, by hospital, region and disease category, in tabular form. - Richard Boyd Barrett***

***PQ 26751/24 To ask the Minister for Health the disease-protected beds that are ringfenced for particular diseases in Irish hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Richard Boyd Barrett***

***PQ 26752/24 To ask the Minister for Health the statistics recorded relating to instances of those in need of disease-protected beds in hospitals being unable to avail of them due to lack of availability; to provide a breakdown of these statistics for the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Richard Boyd Barrett***

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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

I wish to advise that our Hospitals determine its beds by speciality, ie Medical, Surgical, Dermatology, Cardiology, Oncology, Orthopaedics, etc. but do not have specific ring fenced beds for particular diseases.

All hospitals ensure that any patient who requires isolation due to being diagnosed with any particular disease are accommodated in available single rooms; as and when they are available. Alternatively hospitals may cohort patients with other patients who may have the same illness where it is deemed appropriate by the Infection and Prevention policies of each individual site.

I trust this is of assistance,

Yours sincerely,

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**Jacqueline McNulty**  
**General Manager**  
**Access and Integration**