



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Alan Dillon
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

3rd May 2024

PQ 11829/24 To ask the Minister for Health how many people have been diagnosed with long-Covid since the start of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Dillon,

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.

I wish to advise you that diagnostic data is sourced from HIPE which records diagnosis following discharge. The Healthcare Pricing Office have advised that the relevant code is U07.4 *“Emergency use of U07.4 [Post COVID-19 condition] and this could be coded when clinical documentation supported its assignment.”* However, we are advised by HIPE that after a review of the guidelines around the use of the codes, the U07.4 code is not specific to long covid but refers to any post covid condition and can only be used when a causal relationship between the current condition and a previous covid condition is established. Accordingly the data is not specific enough to provide a response to the question posed.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Catherine Clarke, Assistant National Director
Acute Operations**