



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta
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Deputy Paul Donnelly
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

14th May, 2024

PQ 20645/24: To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding allocated to the Lymphoedema model of care in the years of 2022, 2023 and 2024, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

I refer to your parliamentary question, which was passed to the HSE for response.

Following endorsement of the Lymphoedema /Lipoedema Model of Care (MOC) by the HSE in early 2019, approval was given by the HSE to move ahead with the planning for the MOC and initiate the implementation of the MOC through a Proof of Concept approach. This enabling approach commenced with 2 Proof of Concept sites – 1 Specialist Lymphoedema Clinic (SLC) in Primary Care and 1 early detection service in oncology and has further developed with 3 SLC's in the community and 2 early detection services in the acute hospitals currently.

The Proof of Concept services were initially funded through an allocation of €0.900m on a temporary year to year basis and has increase annually to €1.100m in 2024.

In 2021 and 2022 €65,000 was allocated to education including specialist training to healthcare professionals and an education e-Learning module; communication and the development of the All Ireland Lymphoedema clinical guideline, 2022. In 2023 €50,000 was allocated for the development of a lymphoedema App and €70,000 for essential equipment in the clinics.

The clinic outcomes have demonstrated improved quality of life, improved access and high patient satisfaction. In the patients reviewed after the first 12 months of treatment there was a 84% reduction in hospitalisations, 87% reduction in GP visits and PHN visits were reduced by 88%, resulting in reduced demand on acute and community services.

Funding allocation is on a temporary year to year basis:

Year	Proof of concept services
2022	€0.900m
2023	€1.000m
2024	€1.100m



Permanent funding to enable permanency of the current proof of concept services and full roll out of the model of care to the order of €8M annually will be sought as part of the Estimates 2025 process.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Geraldine Crowley,
Assistant National Director,
Enhanced Community Care Programme &
Primary Care Contracts**