



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
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Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte

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Deputy Sean Sherlock,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

PQ 23526/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of the 5,500 Hepatitis C home testing kits ordered from the HSE in the past year that were returned for testing; of those, how many people received a positive result for Hepatitis C; the treatment pathways for those people whose home tests were positive; how many have engaged in care; how many of those are now being treated for Hepatitis C; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

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

I wish to advise that 68 tests were hepatitis C reactive. Of these 10 were a new diagnosis following confirmatory testing arranged by St. Vincent's University Hospital (SVUH) nursing service. All 10 patients were linked to a treatment site convenient to them by the SVUH nursing service and are engaging in care.

This new service will enable hepatitis C testing to become more available throughout Ireland. To our knowledge, Ireland is the first country to establish a publicly funded home testing service for hepatitis C. The referral pathway is running very smoothly and feedback from patients has been very positive.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Enhanced Community Care Programme &  
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