The Irish Health System
- Challenges and Opportunities

# hello my name is...

Tony O’Brien
Director General of the Health Service
Irish Health Services

• Funder and Provider of:
  – Primary Care
  – Acute Care
  – Mental health
  – Social Care
  – Health Protection
  – Health Promotion
  – Ambulance Services
One Day in Health and Social Care Services

19,040 Attend Hospital
4,110 inpatients, 9,040 out patients
2,602 day case patients receiving treatment
3,288 are ED

158,904 Prescription Items a Day
2,054 Screening Tests a Day

11,233 Disability Personal Assistance Hours

832 Calls
230,137 Lab Tests
180 Babies Born

28,493 Home Help Hours
2,687 Callers to Out of Hours GP
48 Urgent Breast Cancer Appointments
25 Complaints a Day

Source: HSE Annual Report 2015
Ireland has the highest % of the population reporting good or very good health.

Source: EU-SILC, EuroStat
### The Irish Health System

#### Eligibility for Key Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Population Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acute Hospital (Public) Services</strong></td>
<td>Universal Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Persons with Full Eligibility (medical cards) &amp; Persons with Limited Eligibility (other residents) (*some categories exempt from public charges, e.g. medical cardholders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GP Services</strong></td>
<td>Universal Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U6s &amp; O70s</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Cards &amp; GP Visit Cards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Eligibility &amp; some Limited Eligibility</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private Arrangements</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Limited Eligibility</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Maternity &amp; Infant Care in Community</strong></td>
<td>Universal Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Persons with Full Eligibility &amp; Persons with Limited Eligibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drugs, Medicines, etc.</strong></td>
<td>Medical Cards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Eligibility</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(*€2.50 co-payment)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>LTI scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Specific conditions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DPS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Limited Eligibility</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(*€144 deductible)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Statutory Primary Care Services</strong></td>
<td>Medical Cards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g., dental, optical, aural, home nursing)</td>
<td>Full Eligibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private Arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Limited Eligibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Statutory Primary Care Services</strong></td>
<td>Persons with Full Eligibility (medical cards) and Persons with Limited Eligibility (other residents) depending on availability of services/resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g., OT, physiotherapy, S&amp;LT, podiatry, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nursing Home Subvention Scheme</strong></td>
<td>Universal Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subject to a financial assessment/contribution based upon income and assets</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Medical Cards

GP visit card numbers

2016 Figures
- 1,683,792 Medical Card Holders
- 470,505 hold GP Visit cards

Medical card and GP visit card numbers, 2000 to 2015

Chronic disease accounts for 80% of GP visits

Source: PCRS
Note: GP Visit Cards were issued to all children under 6 during 2015.
Private health Insurance Coverage, 2001 to 2015

Source: Health Insurance Authority
Budget 2017

- **Total revenue budget** available in 2017 is **€13,948.5m**
- Increase on revised budget 2016 of **€458.6m (3.4%)**
- Full year effects of 2016 developments - **€72.9m**
- Pay rate funding to support existing level of staff - **€118.1m**
- Non-pay and demographics costs - **€186.3m**
- Expanding existing & developing new services - **€81.3m**
- Within the €13,948.5m, **€36.5m** is being held by the DoH to fund specific initiatives

- Separately, a provision of €439m in capital funding will be made available to the HSE in 2017, comprising €384m for building, equipping and furnishing of health facilities and €55m for ICT.
Workforce Position

- Dec 2015: 103,884 WTEs
- Dec 2016: 107,085 WTEs (+3%)
System-wide Challenges

- Patient Navigation
- Data Integration (e-Health)
- Service Integration
- Rising expectation and demands
- Demand versus capacity
- Affordability - spiralling cost of healthcare
- Change - new health technologies, treatments and ‘Reform’ itself
- ‘Unmet Need’

(HSE CSPD, 2015)
Meeting the needs of an Ageing Population

Figure 4.8: Projected percentage increases in in-patient cost pressures based on demographic projections: all ages, 65+ and 85+, 2015 to 2022

Source: HPO, CSO
Demographics & Chronic Illness

• 38% of Irish people 50 years+ have a chronic disease and 11% have more than one.

• As the number of older people increases this burden of chronic disease will grow, HSE estimates by 20% by 2020.

• Estimates project a 70% increase in cancer cases in females & an 83% increase in males between 2015-2040.
Increasing Number of Older People Requiring Emergency Admission

Number of discharges of patients admitted as emergency

Source: Shelley/HIPE
Successful System Improvements

• National Cancer Control Programme
• National Clinical Programmes
• Special Delivery Unit
• National Treatment Purchase Fund
Decisive Shift to Primary Care
Democratising Healthcare through e-Health and Patient/Service User Involvement
Delivering

• Knowledge & Information Plan

Integrated, Patient Centric, Efficient Care Delivery

Clinical & Information Governance

Care Delivery Enablement

Electronic Health Records

Cross Setting Information Integration

Health Service Insights

National Support Systems

Knowledge & Information Delivery Transformation
Transformation from:

Industrial Age Healthcare   TO   Information Age Healthcare

Person
Community
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary

Individual Self-care
Friends & Family
Community Networks
Professionals as Facilitators
Professionals as Partners
Professionals as Authorities

Source: Adapted from Malaysian Telemedicine Blueprint
Some eHealth Programmes

1. Individual Health Identifier
2. Electronic Health Record
3. eReferrals / Primary Care IT
4. Lighthouse Projects (Epilepsy EHR; Haemophilia integration with PAS, Bipolar Disorder with clinical support tool)
5. NIMIS (Imaging) & MedLIS (Laboratory)
Five Integrated Models of Care

- Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease
- Maternity
- Children
- Older Persons
- Patient Flow

Person-centred, coordinated care
The Health & Wellbeing Agenda

- Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life
- Reduce health inequalities
- Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing
- Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland
Capital Funding
Funding the Cost of Transformation

$8.5bn (over 5 years) to cut costs by $17bn

The NHS Transformation Fund requires £1.5–£2.1 billion a year in dedicated funding between now and 2020/21 (i.e. more than £8bn pledged by 2020)

(Health Foundation & Kings Fund, 2015)
Thank you

Building a Better Health Service

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