



Survey regarding Fair Deal & Transitional Care Funding Delays

Survey undertaken Thursday 15th August 2019 amongst NHI Membership

County Respondent Nursing Home Located within	Feedback from Nursing Home regarding Fair Deal & Transitional Care
Galway	2 residents on waiting list in GUH awaiting transitional care funding. We are currently holding beds for both and for another lady at home who is on the waiting list for Fair Deal funding over 6 months.
Dublin	At present, we have six people on our waiting list awaiting approval for funding under the Fair Deal scheme. Two are at home, and the other four are in hospital. Five of these people were offered a bed in our nursing home during the month of July, however none were in a position to take up the offer as they were waiting for Fair Deal funding approval and were not in a position to pay privately. One person was told at the end of June that it would likely be another six weeks until they received approval for funding. Over the last year we have consistently had patients admitted from hospital under the Transitional Funding scheme, however we have had no admissions under the scheme since May.
Westmeath	Have been advised by Nurse Managers in MRHM [Midlands Regional Hospital Mullingar] that Fair Deal is not being offered to patients and patients are funding privately.

Mayo	We have one lady transferred from hospital three weeks ago with forms filled and she still awaits funding for Fair Deal. Another lady came to us from home 11 weeks ago and we are told it will be another 6 weeks for her to receive funding.
Cork	There are 3 residents awaiting placement with us as no Transitional Funding available. CUH advised that approval is taking several weeks. Yesterday, they got approval for one person however family unable to transfer due to short notice.
Donegal	We await transitional care funding for 2 people whose Fair Deal funding has been approved. They are 'blocking beds' in our acute hospital and I have agreed the services we will provide to them - and their families - to meet their healthcare needs. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to accept either respite or long-term residents who are not prepared to privately fund places in my nursing home as I am not in a position to absorb this loss of income. It is extremely disappointing to have to disappoint families who were delighted to have discussed their loved ones care needs with us and become aware of a bed becoming available. The situation is absolutely outrageous as the local hospital (Letterkenny) have today around 150 people in ED, many of whom are awaiting a bed. This is a dire situation, considering it is the Summer when ED should have less pressure upon their services. I dread for our health services the fast approaching winter months.
Roscommon	Delayed hospital discharges are occurring while beds lie empty in our nursing home awaiting the patient. The local discharge coordinator is aware of delays but cannot act without funding support. Families are being pushed to fund privately or else leave their older loved one in the acute hospital.
Cork	We encountered issues early in July with our two most recent admissions requiring transitional care. We had to wait two weeks for funding to be approved. At the time we were told by the discharge coordinators that there are major delays [in securing such funding] and applications are being reviewed once per week and may not be processed for several weeks. The discharge coordinators seemed to be frustrated with the cutbacks.
Kilkenny	I am currently aware of one man who is waiting now since mid-June for Fair Deal funding. He has been advised it will be at least another two to three weeks before funding is made available.
Limerick	One of our Fair Deal residents has been admitted to the nursing home from hospital and is currently under the umbrella of transitional funding until his Fair Deal has been approved. Funding was not

	released for the transitional care until three weeks following pre-assessment carried out by the nursing home. His family were very anxious to get their relative out of the acute setting as he had been under their care for five months. Also, I have had several inquiries from the hospital requesting two-week respite/convalesce care for patients and have then received follow up calls to inform that no funding is available at present.
Cork	We currently have empty long stay beds which we are unable to fill due to long delays in Fair Deal approval and in some cases restrictions on funding such as interim funding.
Kildare	Transitional Funding is very difficult to get from the hospital at present and some exceptional funding has been released for 2 residents. HSE are apologetic but all departments, including those that administer Fair Deal, are just using the line 'no funding available'.
Cork	Long term beds that were to be filled by people in a hospital setting could not be filled as no transitional care funding available. The family did not have funds to allow the person to take up the bed. Funding still has not been released, despite the patient waiting a number of weeks. A discharge coordinator we spoke with said a lot of the funding was going towards the children's hospital.
Galway	We are aware of a significant amount of cases of people being affected by both Fair Deal and transitional care funding delays. Delays are arising in transfer of patients from the hospital setting, with them being 4+ weeks. The delays are proving very frustrating for the families and patients themselves. There is little engagement coming from the HSE
Wicklow	We're seeing fewer enquiries from local hospitals for patients to avail of short-stay or long-stay care. What is happening is families are delaying admission to nursing home care due to funding to avail of care not being approved. In our hospitals, patients are taking up hospital beds, despite being medically fit for discharge and beds being available in the community.
Kildare	Previously funding would be backdates for a person availing of transitional care but this is not being sanctioned for patients, whereas it previously would have been. In general, residents and their families are awaiting three to five months of the processing and approval of Fair Deal applications.
Kildare	We have long term and short term planned admissions awaiting transitional care and Fair Deal funding approval. Most are patients in acute hospital awaiting discharge. Hospital staff are unable to obtain

	<p>funding for patients fit for discharge to our nursing home. We are in daily contact with hospital staff. We currently have 12 beds available subject to funding approval.</p>
Clare	<p>Our recent experience is we had a resident admitted awaiting Fair Deal on 20th May and they were approved for payment 23rd July. Our last resident to be admitted under transitional care funding was on 25th June. We've had only two transitional care funding residents admitted since 31st May. HSE acute services are made aware of bed availability every Monday. We've had six beds available to deliver respite, transitional or long-stay care through during the Summer.</p>
Dublin	<p>Transitional care funding for respite / short stay care has been severely cut. This is resulting in residents due to transfer from the acute setting into nursing home care being left waiting for two to three weeks. Patients are subsequently going home instead of availing of rehabilitative and respite care they should be receiving every day from a nursing home.</p>
Kerry	<p>The delays in discharge from hospital to the nursing home to avail of transitional care are about three weeks. Families are experiencing frustrations in not receiving much feedback with regard to their applications. Fair Deal is also taking much longer now.</p>
Kerry	<p>Currently we have one resident waiting for Fair Deal funding since May 7th. The resident is currently in receipt of emergency respite that has no guarantee. It has been very distressing for the family as they are not in a position to pay privately for nursing home care. We also have three empty beds since May that we have been informed unofficially by the HSE would be filled if funding was available. As a small provider, it is having a detrimental effect on our business. We are looking at the possibility of having to reduce staff numbers. There has been no engagement with us with regard to funding of care for residents who have identified our nursing home for care. I have had to chase up the HSE repeatedly regarding funding for one resident requiring care. I have been given numerous excuses as to why it has not been granted.</p>