

i. National Diabetes Register



What are we Funding?

Implementation of a database to track the prevalence of diabetes, improve outcomes and determine the cost of providing care.

Budget 2022 Ask: € HSE to Estimate

Why Fund This?

The lack of a National Diabetes Registry hinders the HSE's ability to plan for diabetes, an increasingly common and costly chronic condition.

If Not Funded...

The HSE continues to blindly manage diabetes, and we do not understand the cost implications of policy decisions.

Highlights

1. We do not know how many Irish people have diabetes, nor where they live in the country.
2. We can only estimate national-level figures by using prevalence in other countries (e.g. Scotland)
3. The HSE struggled to manage rollout of COVID-19 vaccine to this priority group for lack of a register.
4. Lack of a register is highlighted at European level as major deficiency of our service (rank: 20 of 30).
5. Establishment of a registry would help with tracking the prevalence of the condition, measuring outcomes, and cost of care and planning for future services.
6. The registry could be a template for other chronic diseases.

Detailed and Supporting Information

National Diabetes Registry

Diabetes Ireland is calling for the creation and implementation of a National Diabetes Registry. Health services that aspire to deliver high-quality diabetes care need to know who lives with diabetes in their jurisdiction. **Ireland does not have a National Diabetes Registry.** Therefore, there is no accurate figure available for the number of people living with diabetes in Ireland. Initial steps towards this were previously funded, but funding was subsequently suspended with COVID-19. **The HSE would need to estimate the costs of this (largely ICT) project.**

The lack of a National Diabetes Registry represents a significant problem for our health service as we attempt to tackle diabetes, an increasingly common and costly chronic disease. Establishment of a registry **would help with tracking the prevalence of the condition, measuring outcomes and cost of care and planning for future services.** A National Diabetes Registry also has the potential to provide an architecture and approach for the subsequent development of a **national chronic disease registry.**

In 2014, **Ireland was ranked 20th of 30 European countries** in a Euro Diabetes Index survey with the lack of a diabetes registry highlighted as a major deficiency.

This deficiency came into sharper focus recently when **the health service was unable to easily identify the diabetes population** as part of the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

In contrast to the situation in Ireland, our nearest neighbour, Scotland, maintains a National Diabetes Registry and can easily identify the diabetes population and track the prevalence of diabetes year on year. The most recent data from Scotland (taken from the Scotland Diabetes Survey 2018) are highlighted in the Table below.

The figures for Ireland are estimated based on the Scottish prevalence of diabetes (5.6% of the total census population) and based on the Scottish prevalence of type 2 diabetes (87.9% of the total diabetes population) and type 1 diabetes (10.8% of the total diabetes population). Other (rare) forms of diabetes have not been included in the Table 1:

Country	Total (census) Population	Total Diabetes Prevalence	Type 2 Diabetes Prevalence	Type 1 Diabetes Prevalence
Scotland	5,424,800	304,375	267,615	32,828
Ireland (estimate)	4,761,865 (CSO, 2016)	266,664	234,398	28,800

Table 1 - Diabetes Prevalence