

#### 4.11 Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD) Service Naas General Hospital (NGH)

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**Background:** ILD encompasses a heterogeneous group of diseases of known and unknown aetiology which causes damage and destruction of the lung parenchyma. Patients often experience debilitating symptoms and poor prognosis (1). Timely access to an accurate diagnosis and an effective care plan is crucial for these patients. Delayed access to an ILD centre is associated with increased mortality (2). Multi-disciplinary discussion (MDD) is recommended for diagnostic decision making in ILD management (3). In line with a ‘hub and spoke’ model of shared care an ILD MDD was established in August 2021 between Tallaght University Hospital (TUH) and NGH (3).

**Method:** A 2 year retrospective review was carried out from August 2021 to August 2023 of the database of ILD patients attending a respiratory outpatient clinic (n=60).

**Results:** To date 40 patients have been discussed at the NGH/TUH MDD and 20 patient are still being worked up for ILD in NGH. 15 patients have been started on treatment (steroids or anti-fibrotic therapy). 8 patients were referred to TUH ILD service due to complex diagnosis. 17 patients are being management conservatively with ongoing monitoring.

**Conclusion:** Comprehensive ILD care delivery has several key components including diagnosis, treatment, monitoring, support/advocacy, education and research, with an overarching goal of improving patient care and advancing the field of ILD. Creative and innovative strategies are needed to find ways to optimally deliver ILD care to the highest number of patients possible.

Disclosures: The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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