**Statement from the IHCA re: Budget 14**

Commenting on Budget ’14, Mr Denis Evoy, President of the Irish Hospital Consultants Association (IHCA) said “that with growing demand for patient care in acute hospitals and mental health services, there is a serious concern that the cut of €666 million in the health budget will affect services for patients.” Mr Evoy called for increased funding for frontline services in the National Service Plan otherwise acute services will be undermined affecting patient safety and patient care.

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