



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Sorca Clarke  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**47889/23- To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 579 of 17 October 2023, when the document approved by the National Trauma Programme Steering Group in December 2022 which states "TU's should have the availability of at least one paediatric nurse per shift" and "recommends one WTE nurse per paediatric attendance annually" was updated and this recommendation removed. -Sorca Clarke**

Dear Deputy Clarke,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Acute Operations have contacted the HSE National Office for Trauma Services in relation to the question raised above and who have advised as follows:

The National Trauma Unit Service Specification has not removed or changed any recommendations in relation to paediatric nursing requirements quoted in the National Emergency Medicine Report 2012.

The stated requirement still remains:

*"Trauma Units (TUs) should have the availability of at least one Paediatric nurse per shift"*

This requirement is separate to a recommendation in the National Emergency Medicine Programme Report 2012, which states:

*"a minimum number of nurses specifically educated and trained in paediatric emergency care is required – current recommendations suggest one WTE nurse per 1,250 paediatric attendances annually (or at least one per shift in mixed EDs)"*

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Nessa Lynch**  
General Manager  
Acute Operations