

04.04.2024

Office of the Head of Primary Care South East Community Healthcare HSE Offices, Lacken Dublin Road, Kilkenny

Telephone: +353568884100

Deputy Mattie McGrath, T.D, Dail Eireann Leinster House Dublin

PQ 8260/24

To ask the Minister for Health the numbers of patients seen in the Cashel minor injury unit each year for the past three years; the number of staff available at the unit; the reason why the public are never recommended to use Cashel minor injury unit when local hospitals are experiencing overcrowding; the efforts taken to advertise and increase the use of this unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGrath,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is my response.

No of patients seen 2022, 2023 and YTD March 2024:

MIU Activity	YTD March '24	Year 2023	Year 2022
Total of MIU patients & INR bloods	1167	4260	3332
Referral via GP/hospital	134	516	490
Direct patient Referrals (walk ins)	1033	3744	2842

Staffing details of Minor Injury Unit, Cashel:

Staffing	WTE
Medical Registrar	1.0
Nursing	1.0
Clerical Officer	1.0

With respect to your query in relation to the public being advised of the services provided by patients, particularly when local Acute hospitals are experiencing overcrowding, the information on the Minor Injury Units is listed on the HSE website under 'Find urgent and Emergency Care'

It is also included in Tipperary University Hospital media statement and aired on to local Tipp FM radio. The hospital asks people to consider all care and treatment options in order to keep the Emergency Department Services free for those patients who need it most. In this statement, the MIU opening times are outlined below:

Monday 9am to 1pm/ 2pm to 5pm
Tuesday 9am to 1pm/ 2pm to 5pm
Wednesday 9am to 1pm/ 2pm to 5pm
Thursday 9am to 1pm/ 2pm to 5pm
Friday 9am to 1pm/ 2pm to 5pm

Saturday Closed Sunday Closed

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Anna-Marie Lanigan,

Head of Service Primary Care,

Assistant National Director, South East Community Healthcare