

CC/TP/MC

Email: [pqmidwestacute@hse.ie](mailto:pqmidwestacute@hse.ie)

19<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Mr Thomas Pringle TD  
Dàil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 10069/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who attended a prostate rapid access clinic and the number who were offered an appointment in each of the relevant hospitals managed by University of Limerick Hospital Group within ten working days of the date of receipt of a letter of referral from the cancer office, in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form.**

Dear Deputy Pringle,

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.

University Hospital Limerick is one of eight Rapid Access Prostate Clinics in Ireland that provides diagnosis and treatment for patients with prostate cancer and suspected prostate cancer.

UL Hospitals Group is committed to providing care for prostate cancer patients in the Mid-West and we continue to strive to improve our services to ensure that our patients have the best possible outcomes.

For example, University Hospital Limerick commenced self-management follow-up care for patients in February 2023. The aim of self-management is to adopt a standardised approach and empower patients to self-manage their condition and take a more active role in their care.

As requested, please find attached data in tabular form for the years requested. As you can see, there has been an increase in the number of patients that attended our clinics and an increase in the number of patients that received an appointment within ten working days of referral.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.



**Professor Colette Cowan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**UL Hospitals Group**

**Prostate Rapid Access Clinics 2016-2023**



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The number of patients that attended a Prostate RAC with reporting calendar month, of these (TOTAL No of Patients seen)

The number of patients that attended or received an appointment to attend a Prostate RAC within 20 working days of receipt or referral in the cancer centre

	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021				2022				2023			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
	64	64	70	65	68	63	76	73	68	85	101	128	109	110	121	70	81	43	87	121	126	129	134	150	147	154	152	184	174	165	156	143
	10	9	11	9	5	9	6	8	5	9	17	89	97	64	86	56	24	5	16	89	71	88	106	121	128	129	147	135	130	115	117	