



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas,  
An Bóthar Míleata, Cill Mhaighneann, Baile  
Átha Cliath 8, D08 NN9V

Office of the National Director  
Acute Operations

Unit 4a, the Dargan Building, Heuston  
South Quarter, Military Road,  
Kilmainham, Dublin 8, D08 NN9V

www.hse.ie  
@hselive

t 01 795 9972  
e acutehospitals@hse.ie

**Date: 10 /05 /2024**

Deputy Roisin Shortall , TD

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2

**PQ No.20005 /24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the status of the 14 vacant neurology nursing posts which funding was provided for in Budget 2022; if he intends to order a derogation from the HSE recruitment freeze to fill these posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

**Response:**

The National Clinical Programme for Neurology (NCPN) recognises that skilled and highly trained staff add value to Neurological services and NCPN endorses the expansion of the workforce dedicated to Neurology and in line with the Neurology Model of Care (2016) and Sláintecare.

There were 21 nurse specialist posts announced in Budget 22 following a “Patients Deserve Better Campaign” run by the Neurological Alliance. As of April 2024, 13 (62%) of these funded posts remain unfilled and unable to progress due to the current recruitment pause.

Hospital	WTE	Post Description
Cork University Hospital	2	CNS Neuromuscular ANP candidate Multiple Sclerosis
Tallaght University Hospital	1	ANP candidate Parkinson's disease
Galway University Hospital	3	ANP candidate Huntington's disease CNS Parkinson's disease CNS Multiple Sclerosis
Waterford University Hospital	3	CNS Epilepsy CNS Multiple Sclerosis CNS Parkinson's disease



Sligo University Hospital	2	CNS Epilepsy CNS Parkinson's disease
Limerick University Hospital	1	CNS Multiple Sclerosis
Mater University Hospital	1	CNS Multiple Sclerosis
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

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**Emma Benton**

**General Manager**

**Acute Operations**