



Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon

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5<sup>th</sup> November, 2024.

Deputy Denis Naughten,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare St.,  
Dublin 2.

**RE: PQ 40704-24 – ‘To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 409 of 7 March 2024 and 2431 of 23 July 2024, the number of full-time posts allocated to post-acute and long-Covid clinics, by clinic and speciality, in each of the HSE West and North West Health Regions; if the position has been filled and the patient face time provided by the clinician concerned; if an offer has been made; if a recruitment competition is ongoing; and if he will make a statement on the matter.’**

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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. Apologies for the delay incurred in responding to this PQ. I have now examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

#### Galway University Hospitals:-

A weekly Long Covid clinic takes place in Galway University Hospitals (GUH) on Monday mornings, from 9am-1pm, providing care and treatment to patients in counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal.

The weekly combined clinic that takes place in University Hospital Galway (UHG) is led by Infectious Diseases & Respiratory Consultants/and a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), consisting of Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Psychologist.

In addition, a second clinic held monthly commenced in March 2024 in Merlin Park University Hospital (MPUH), which is led by the Respiratory Consultant.

In total, there are 9.9 WTE's funded to provide the service in GUH.

The information on the provision of direct patient face time for Covid patients in the clinics is not collected. However, we can confirm that 4 hours per week is provided for in the combined Covid clinic in UHG, with a further hours provided in the MPUH monthly clinic. Patient face time may vary depending on whether a patient is a new referral or an existing patient. The clinic hours (9am-1pm)



are official hours. It is not possible to determine if these clinic hours are exceeded as such information is not recorded or collected.

The details and current status of the funded posts for Long COVID and Post Acute COVID clinics are set out in Table 1 below.

**Table 1.**

DOH Category	Post Title	Location	Post Details	Current Status	WTE's
HSCP	Physiotherapist, Clinical Specialist	Physiotherapy - Post-Acute COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Post-Acute COVID Clinic.	Filled	1.0
Mgmt/Admin	Grade IV	Post-Acute COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Post-Acute COVID Clinic.	Filled	0.5
HSCP	Cardiac Physiologist	Cardiac Investigation Unit - Post Acute COVID	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Post-Acute COVID Clinic.	Filled	0.5
HSCP	Respiratory Physiologist	Post-Acute COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Post-Acute COVID Clinic.	Unfilled - funding was not recommissioned for 2024	1.0
HSCP	Medical Scientist	Post-Acute COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Post-Acute COVID Clinic	Filled	0.5
Mgmt/Admin	Grade IV	Long COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Long COVID Clinic.	Filled	0.5
HSCP	Psychologist, Senior Clinical	Long COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Interim Model of Care (MOC) Long COVID Clinic. Indefinite Duration	Filled	0.5
HSCP	Occupational Therapist, Clinical Specialist	Occupational Therapy - Long COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - To provide OT clinical leadership, assessment & intervention to patients attending Long COVID Clinic in GUH.	Filled	0.9
Nursing	Staff Nurse	Long COVID Clinic	<b>New Post</b> - HSE Long COVID Interim Model of Care (MOC) to ensure that patients who have recovered from the acute phase of COVID-19 are followed up in a timely & appropriate manner.	Unfilled - funding was not recommissioned for 2024	0.5
There are two permanent Consultants in place for Covid in GUH, one in Infectious Diseases dept. and one in Respiratory dept. There are two Specialist Registrar in Respiratory Medicine and Specialist Registrar in Infectious Diseases.				Filled	4.0



The other hospitals in the West and North West region, i.e., Letterkenny University Hospital, Sligo University Hospital, Portlinculla University Hospital, Mayo University Hospital and Roscommon University Hospital do not run Long or Post Acute Covid clinics. Patients in these catchment area receive treatment in Galway University Hospitals.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Cosgrove', written in a cursive style.

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**Ann Cosgrove,  
Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon,  
HSE West and North West.**