



Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon

FFS an Iarthair agus an Iarthuaiscirt,
Bloc B, Campas Ospidéal Páirc Mheirlinne,
Gaillimh, H91 N973

Fón: +353 (0) 91 893882
| [@hsewestnorthwest_ie](https://twitter.com/hsewestnorthwest_ie) | www.hse.ie

HSE West and North West,
Block B, Merlin Park Hospital Campus,
Galway, H91 N973

Tel: +353 (0) 91 893882
| [@hsewestnorthwest_ie](https://twitter.com/hsewestnorthwest_ie) | www.hse.ie

14th November, 2024.

Deputy Noel Grealish,
Leinster House,
Kildare St.,
Dublin 2.

Re: PQ 42165/24 - 'To ask the Minister for Health the longest waiting times for people currently waiting for inpatient appointments and for outpatient appointments, at Galway University Hospital and Portiuncula Hospital respectively, by speciality; and if he will make a statement on the matter.'

Dear Deputy Grealish,

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 apologise for the delay in responding to your PQ.

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

Through the HSE Acute Operations Access to Care programme, we secured non-recurring funding in 2024 to progress a number of insourcing initiatives across a number of different specialties. Clinical Insourcing (engaging outside contractors to deliver out-of-hours activity on our site(s)) continued to be a key tool for delivering waiting times improvements. We will also continue to engage with the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) and the Access to Care funded outsourcing programmes in order to improve access and facilitate delivery of our waiting times targets. We have already delivered a substantial number of initiatives across a range of specialties year to date.

The following are our four key targets to help reduce the number of patients waiting:

1. Total Waiting List
2. Reduction on patients waiting >3 years
3. % of patients meeting NSP Maximum Wait Time targets
4. Reduction in volume of patients breaching Sláintecare Access Targets

While short-term interventions have delivered improvements across our hospital sites waiting lists, lasting and meaningful reductions in the number of people waiting for care and associated waiting times, is dependent on an integrated and broader reform of the scheduled care system.

The RHA West and North West continue to focus on delivering capacity, reforming scheduled care, productivity and efficiency and enabling scheduled care.

Table 1 and 2 attached provides details of the longest waiting times for people currently waiting for inpatient and outpatient appointments, by speciality, at GUH and PUH, respectively.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



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

Encls. -Tables 1 & 2.

TABLE 1 – GALWAY UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS

PQ 42165-24				
The longest waiting times for people currently waiting for inpatient appointments and for outpatient appointments, at Galway University Hospital, by speciality.				
SPECIALITY NAME:	LONGEST WAITING TIME		NO. OF PTS. WAITING	
	In-Pt. Appts	OPD Appts	In-Pt. Appts	OPD Appts
Anaesthetics	9-12 months	0-3 months	16	1
Cardiology	24-36 months	36-48 months	799	1854
Cardio-Thoracic Surgery	9-12 months	6-9 months	66	37
Clinical Immunology	NA	15-18 months		482
Dermatology	12-15 months	>48 months	139	3978
Endocrinology	NA	24-36 months		1435
Gastro-Enterology	12-15 months	24-36 months	22	1606
General Surgery	>48 months	36-48 months	1591	2094
Geriatric Medicine	NA	15-18 months		48
Gynaecology	>48 months	24-36 months	1011	1232
Haematology	NA	24-36 months		566
Infectious Diseases	NA	0-3 months		47
Maxillo-Facial	>48 months	36-48 months	681	1010
Nephrology	NA	18-24 months		478
Neurology	>48 months	>48 months	36	2645
Oncology	0-3 months	6-9 months	14	47
Ophthalmology	>48 months	>48 months	1540	3801
Orthopaedics	>48 months	>48 months	1014	6414
Otolaryngology (ENT)	>48 months	36-48 months	1061	2512
Paediatrics	NA	18-24 months		1464
Pain Relief	15-18 months	18-24 months	1411	627
Pathology	NA	24-36 months		190
Plastic Surgery	>48 months	24-36 months	1376	1643
Respiratory Medicine	36-48 months	>48 months	327	3332
Rheumatology	NA	24-36 months		1708
Urology	>48 months	>48 months	1323	3839
Vascular Surgery	>48 months	>48 months	522	1314

TABLE 2 – PORTIUNCULA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

PQ 42165-24

The longest waiting times for people currently waiting for inpatient appointments and for outpatient appointments at Portiuncula Hospital respectively, by speciality.

SPECIALITY NAME:	LONGEST WAITING TIME		NO. OF PTS. WAITING	
	In-Pt. Appts	OPD Appts	In-Pt. Appts	OPD Appts
1. Gastro-Enterology	0-3 months	6-9 months	8	66
2. General Surgery	6-9 months	3-6 months	639	281
3. Gynaecology	18-21 months	9-12 months	321	544
4. Pain Relief	15-18 months	6-9 months	115	125
5. Plastic Surgery	12-15 months	6-9 months	96	39
6. Urology	15-18 months	12-15 months	76	186
7. Cardiology	NA	9-12 months	0	414
8. Dermatology	NA	12-15 months	0	243
9. Endocrinology	NA	9-12 months	0	205
10. Geriatric Medicine	NA	9-12 months	0	32
11. Nephrology	NA	6-9 months	0	30
12. Orthopaedics	NA	6-9 months	0	51
13. Paediatrics	NA	3-6 months	0	313
14. Respiratory Medicine	NA	18-21 months	0	483