



Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon

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

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

**Re: PQ 42167/24 - 'To ask the Minister for Health the number of people currently waiting a year or more for inpatient appointments and for outpatient appointments, at Galway University Hospital and Portiuncula Hospital respectively, by speciality, and by yearly segments 1-2, 2-3 and 3-4 years and so on; 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 incurred 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.

Tables 1 and 2 provide details of the number of people currently waiting a year or more for inpatient and for outpatient appointments, by speciality, at GUH and PUH, respectively.

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.**

*Encls. Tables 1 & 2.*



**TABLE 1 - GALWAY UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS**

PQ 42167-24								
The number of people currently waiting a year or more for inpatient appointments and for outpatient appointments, at Galway University Hospital, by speciality, and by yearly segments 1-2, 2-3 and 3-4 years.								
SPECIALITY NAME:	No. of People Waiting ≥1 year							
	In-Pt. Appointments				OPD Appointments			
	1-2 Yrs	2-3 Yrs	3-4 Yrs	>4 Yrs	1-2 Yrs	2-3 Yrs	3-4 Yrs	>4 Yrs
Anaesthetics								
Cardiology	75	13			131	23	1	
Cardio-Thoracic Surgery								
Clinical Immunology					12			
Dermatology	5				753	532	352	142
Endocrinology					20	1		
Gastro-Enterology					315	68		
General Surgery	339	128	73	123	33		1	
Geriatric Medicine					3			
Gynaecology	71	43	20	14	59	1		
Haematology					30	2		
Infectious Diseases								
Maxillo-Facial	42	23	2	11	35	5	2	
Nephrology					95			
Neurology	7	5		1	661	32	17	3
Oncology								
Ophthalmology	118	50	10	15	844	511	296	167
Orthopaedics	107	9	3	1	955	279	124	109
Otolaryngology (ENT)	232	52	17	23	25	1	6	
Paediatrics					96			
Pain Relief	106				26			
Pathology					38	43		
Plastic Surgery	196	47	40	80				
Respiratory Medicine	88	107	3		808	169	165	263
Rheumatology					343	128		
Urology	184	56	37	66	731	229	172	30
Vascular Surgery	23	5	2	1	21	8	5	3



**TABLE 2 – PORTIUNCULA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

PQ 42167-24								
The number of people currently waiting a year or more for inpatient appointments and for outpatient appointments at Portiuncula Hospital respectively, by speciality, and by yearly segments 1-2, 2-3 and 3-4 years.								
	No. of People Waiting ≥1 year							
	In-Pt. Appointments				OPD Appointments			
SPECIALITY NAME:	1-2 Yrs	2-3 Yrs	3-4 Yrs	>4 Yrs	1-2 Yrs	2-3 Yrs	3-4 Yrs	>4 Yrs
1. Gastro-Enterology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. General Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Gynaecology	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Pain Relief	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Plastic Surgery	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Urology	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
7. Cardiology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Dermatology	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0
9. Endocrinology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10. Geriatric Medicine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Nephrology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Orthopaedics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Paediatrics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Respiratory Medicine	0	0	0	0	121	0	0	0