



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Office of the National Director of Human Resources
Health Service Executive
Dr. Steevens' Hospital
Dublin 8
D08 W2A8

Teil/Tel: (01) 635 2319
Rphost/ E-mail: nationalhr@hse.ie

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Louise O Reilly, T.D.

PQ 47040/18 ** To ask the Minister for Health the number of work days that have been lost as a result of assaults on staff in the health service; the cost of such enforced absences; the number of staff that have not returned to duties as a result in each of the years 2008 to 2017 and to date in 2018, by hospital and profession in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Louise O'Reilly

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary questions as above, which were sent to the HSE for reply.

Information in relation to absenteeism is only collected in respect of the overall level of absenteeism and the reasons for the absence on sick leave are not recorded. Staff who are absent from work due to sickness or ill health for periods in excess of 2 days are required to submit medical certificates to their line manager for the duration of their absence. These certificates, which are confidential, are required to be dated, signed by the medical practitioner and they must state the expected duration of the absence and, where appropriate, the expected date of return. Doctors are not required to state the nature of the illness on the medical certificates. It is not possible, therefore, to provide the Deputy with the information sought.

Yours sincerely,

Marie O'Sullivan
National HR