



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

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Date: 7th May 2019.

Deputy James Browne TD

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2

PQ 18211.19: To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider making deep brain stimulation available here; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Browne,

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:

Options for providing a Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) programme in Ireland are under consideration but given the number of patients requiring such treatment annually, and with reference to the HIQA HTA findings on same, currently patients travel to the UK for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) treatment under the Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS), as appropriate.

In 2018 funding was allocated to the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital to commence the service to care for patient's pre and post procedure and thereby reducing travel requirements for patients. The funded posts for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) services at Mater Misericordiae University Hospital are;

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| • Consultant Neurologist | 0.5 WTE |
| • CNS | 2 WTE |
| • Psychologist | 1 WTE |
| • Speech and Language Therapist | 1 WTE |

- Physiotherapist 0.5 WTE
- Grade IV 1 WTE

All of these posts are now filled with the exception of the consultant post for which recruitment is underway. This service continues to develop in terms of expertise provided as staff attains specialist training and experience.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Benton
General Manager
Acute Operations