

Ospidéal na hOllscoile, Luimneach,

Bóthar Naomh Neasáin, Tuar an Daill, Luimneach V94 F858

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CC/MMcG/MMCM

02nd July 2019

Mr Mattie McGrath TD Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: PQ 25668/19

*To ask the Minister for Health the number of eye and cataract procedures carried out at the cataract centre UL Hospital at Nenagh since November 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Mattie McGrath

Dear Deputy McGrath,

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.

The total number of cataract surgeries carried out in Nenagh Hospital since November 2018 up to the 21st June 2019 is 697 cases.

A dedicated cataract surgery service operates in Nenagh Hospital four days per week, with planning in place to extend this to a five day a week service following Consultant recruitment. This dedicated cataract service has made a significant improvement to the wait times for all UL Hospital Group patients by allowing greater access to theatre and thus reducing wait times. It allows non complex day case cataracts to be scheduled in Nenagh Hospital and the complex cataract and other eye surgeries to be scheduled in University Hospital Limerick.

I trust this clarifies the position. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Executive Officer UL Hospitals Group