



05 July, 2019

Deputy Gerry Adams

**Ref: PQ Ref 26351**

Dear Deputy Adams,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question below which was sent to the HSE for reply.

*"To ask the Minister for Health the number of specialties affected by the failure to fill the 500 consultant posts"*

#### **National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response**

The following data is extracted from Doctors Integrated Management E-system (DIME). DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce. This database has recently been introduced and the data matching exercise is not currently 100% completed, and as such there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within hospitals.

Medical Discipline	*Unknown	**Vacant	Grand Total
Anaesthesia	17	8	25
Emergency Medicine	13	5	18
Intensive Care Medicine	1	2	3
Medicine	41	42	83
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	10	4	14
Paediatrics	15	15	30
Pathology	27	19	46
Psychiatry	42	29	71
Radiology	23	11	34
Surgery	22	16	38
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>362</b>

The recording of vacant posts is a new feature of DIME and has only been available for reporting from early 2019. The category "Unknown status" refers to when the site has not yet assigned a consultant to a post or marked a post as vacant and therefore the status of this post is currently unknown in DIME. The category "Vacant" refers to a consultant post that the hospital has verified on DIME as currently vacant.

Eddie Staddon  
General Manager  
National Doctors Training and Planning