



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

Acute Operations  
Unit 4A, The Dargan Building, Heuston South Quarter,  
Military Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8

☎: 0179 59971 📧: [ncagl.acutehospitals@hse.ie](mailto:ncagl.acutehospitals@hse.ie)

Date: 20/11/2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ No. 46142/19 To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to specific general practitioner training or support for the diagnosis and treatment of Ehlers-Danlos syndrome; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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:**

The Model of Care for Rheumatology recommends minimal staffing standards, based on population, for each rheumatology department in order to provide appropriate treatment to all patients with rheumatological diseases. This model aims to ensure that all rheumatology patients are seen, assessed and treated by the right person, in the right place and in the timeliest manner. Paediatric and adult rheumatologists currently working within the state are trained in the management of Ehlers Danlos syndrome (EDS) as are the other specialists who are involved in EDS care.

The Irish College General Practitioners (ICGP) is the professional body for general practice in Ireland and is the representative organisation on education, training and standards in general practice and would be best placed to provide information on GP training.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emma Benton'.

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**Emma Benton**

**General Manager**

**Acute Operations**