

27<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Deputy Sean Fleming TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 47589/19**

*To ask the Minister for Health the reason there has been no regard for existing INAB accreditation service level agreements; the reason no consideration has been given to the wider implications of undermining existing services in the midlands region in particular reputational damage to his Department at the hospital Pathology services, Midlands Regional Hospital, Tullamore the effect that this will have on the provision of services to patients in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

Dear Deputy Fleming

The Dublin Midlands Hospital Group is aware that the Ireland East Hospital Group (IEHG) have taken the decision to put in place a comprehensive and sustainable model of dermatology care for that region between the Midland Regional Hospital at Mullingar and the Mater Hospital. This is to address the historic challenge in dermatology waiting list in the Midlands. This service has been funded through NTPF.

Histopathology in the Midlands has traditionally been (and continues to be) managed by the Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore. The Dublin Midlands Hospital Group can confirm that this dermatology initiative will not in any way impact the ongoing arrangement nor add to the workload of the pathology services in Tullamore. Therefore, it would not have been necessary to consider such matters in this context.

I trust this clarifies the concerns raised.

Yours Sincerely



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**Mr Trevor O' Callaghan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**