



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

31st October 2019

Deputy Anne Rabbitte TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

PQ 41792/19 * *To ask the Minister for Health if all staff charged with operating ultra sounds have had their qualifications verified; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

Dear Deputy Rabbitte,

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.

Sonography, as a stand-alone profession, is not a Department of Health approved role. Sonography is carried out by a variety of healthcare professionals including doctors, radiographers, nurses and midwives. The HSE employs Nurses/ Midwives and Radiographers who provide Ultrasound/ Sonography services to patients. These posts are recruited into by both national recruitment HBS Recruit and local recruitment offices.

Nurses/ Midwives and Radiographers who are appointed by HBS Recruit as Nurse/ Midwife Sonographer or Radiographer Sonographer must have a post graduate qualification relevant to the specialism of sonographer/ ultrasound at a minimum of QQI Level. Where local recruitment takes place, it is guided by the qualifications and eligibility requirements in the job description.

Qualifications are checked by the recruiter at contract stage i.e. if part of national recruitment by NRS and if recruitment is done locally, by the local HR Department. This information is not collected nationally.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Ivory
General Manager, Acute Operations