



16th December 2020

Deputy Grealish
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ Ref: 42905/20

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of permanent consultant posts which have been unfilled; the length of time the post has been unfilled; the speciality and area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Grealish

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.

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 9 December 2020. DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites. As DIME is a live system it must be noted that there can be variances in the figures published dependent on the run date of the report as entries can be made with a retrospective date.

There are currently 237 vacant Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) approved posts and 4 unknown approved posts. Although the post is currently vacant recruitment may be underway, this is not currently captured in DIME.

Table 1 – Number of unfilled posts by Medical Discipline, Specialty and Area.

Medical Discipline & Specialty	Unknown status	Vacant	Total
Anaesthesiology		11	11
Anaesthesiology		11	11
Children's Health Ireland		3	3
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		2	2
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
Saolta Hospitals Group		1	1
University of Limerick Hospitals Group		3	3
Emergency Medicine		8	8
Emergency Medicine		8	8
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		2	2
Saolta Hospitals Group		3	3
South / South West Hospitals Group		2	2
Intensive Care Medicine		4	4
Intensive Care Medicine		4	4



Children's Health Ireland		1	1
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		2	2
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
Medicine	3	63	66
Cardiology		3	3
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group		2	2
Clinical Genetics		1	1
Children's Health Ireland		1	1
Dermatology		7	7
Children's Health Ireland		1	1
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		3	3
Saolta Hospitals Group		1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group		1	1
Medical Discipline & Specialty	Unknown	Vacant	Total
General Medicine		20	20
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		1	1
Ireland East Hospitals Group		4	4
RCSI Hospitals Group		5	5
Saolta Hospitals Group		2	2
South / South West Hospitals Group		5	5
University of Limerick Hospitals Group		3	3
Genito-Urinary Medicine		1	1
Unspecified		1	1
Geriatric Medicine		6	6
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		1	1
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
Saolta Hospitals Group		2	2
South / South West Hospitals Group		1	1
Infectious Diseases		6	6
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		2	2
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
University of Limerick Hospitals Group		2	2
Medical Oncology	1	1	2
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
Saolta Hospitals Group	1		1
Medical Ophthalmology		4	4
CHO 6		1	1
CHO 7		1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group		2	2
Neurology		3	3
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		2	2

South / South West Hospitals Group		1	1
Neurophysiology		2	2
Children's Health Ireland		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
Palliative Medicine	2	3	5
CHO 2	2		2
CHO 7		3	3
Rehabilitation Medicine		6	6
CHO 6		4	4
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
Saolta Hospitals Group		1	1
Obstetrics & Gynaecology		15	15
Obstetrics & Gynaecology		15	15
Ireland East Hospitals Group		3	3
RCSI Hospitals Group		3	3
Saolta Hospitals Group		2	2
South / South West Hospitals Group		7	7
Medical Discipline & Specialty	Unknown	Vacant	Total
Paediatrics		21	21
Paediatrics		21	21
Children's Health Ireland		8	8
Ireland East Hospitals Group		2	2
Saolta Hospitals Group		3	3
South / South West Hospitals Group		4	4
University of Limerick Hospitals Group		4	4
Pathology	1	33	34
Haematology		4	4
Children's Health Ireland		1	1
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
Saolta Hospitals Group		1	1
Histopathology		17	17
BreastCheck		3	3
Children's Health Ireland		1	1
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		3	3
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group		6	6
University of Limerick Hospitals Group		2	2
Microbiology	1	11	12
Children's Health Ireland		1	1
CHO 6		1	1
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group		1	1
N/a		1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group		3	3
Saolta Hospitals Group	1		1
South / South West Hospitals Group		4	4
Unspecified		1	1
Ireland East Hospitals Group		1	1
Psychiatry		26	26
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry		6	6
CHO 4		2	2
CHO 8		1	1
CHO 9		3	3



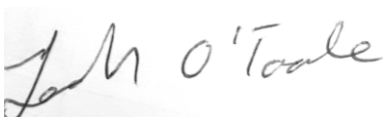
Psychiatry	15	15
CHO 1	1	1
CHO 2	1	1
CHO 3	2	2
CHO 4	2	2
CHO 8	2	2
CHO 9	2	2
Mental Health Services	5	5
Psychiatry of Learning Disability	4	4
CHO 1	1	1
CHO 3	2	2
CHO 9	1	1
Psychiatry of Old Age	1	1
CHO 9	1	1
Medical Discipline & Specialty	Unknown	Vacant
Radiology	31	31
Radiation Oncology	2	2
South / South West Hospitals Group	2	2
Radiology	29	29
BreastCheck	3	3
Children's Health Ireland	3	3
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group	2	2
Ireland East Hospitals Group	7	7
RCSI Hospitals Group	4	4
Saolta Hospitals Group	2	2
South / South West Hospitals Group	3	3
University of Limerick Hospitals Group	5	5
Surgery	25	25
Cardiothoracic Surgery	2	2
Saolta Hospitals Group	1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group	1	1
General Surgery	6	6
BreastCheck	1	1
Ireland East Hospitals Group	2	2
RCSI Hospitals Group	2	2
Saolta Hospitals Group	1	1
Neurosurgery	1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group	1	1
Ophthalmic Surgery	1	1
Ireland East Hospitals Group	1	1
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	1	1
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group	1	1
Orthopaedic Surgery	4	4
Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group	2	2
Ireland East Hospitals Group	2	2

Otolaryngology	3	3
Children's Health Ireland	1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group	1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group	1	1
Paediatric Surgery	1	1
Children's Health Ireland	1	1
Plastic Surgery	1	1
South / South West Hospitals Group	1	1
Urology	5	5
Ireland East Hospitals Group	1	1
RCSI Hospitals Group	1	1
Saolta Hospitals Group	3	3
Grand Total	4	237

- Vacant: The site has verified on DIME that this is a vacant post. Recruitment for the post may be underway.
- Unknown: The site has not yet assigned a consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant.

Medical Discipline	Vacant for less than 3 years	Vacant for more than 3 years	Total
Radiology	27	4	31
Pathology	29	4	33
Medicine	59	4	63
Psychiatry	24	2	26
Emergency Medicine	7	1	8
Anaesthesiology	10	1	11
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	14	1	15
Paediatrics	20	1	21
Intensive Care Medicine	4	0	4
Surgery	25	0	25
Total	219	18	237

Posts identified as vacant for more than 3 years have not been approved or filled in the past 3 years.



Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director
National Doctors Training and Planning