



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála
National Screening Service

12 August 2020

Deputy Alan Kelly
alan.kelly@oireachtas.ie

Our Ref: GM/Communications

PQ18977/20: To ask the Minister for Health the capacity available in colposcopy services in April 2018 versus the capacity in July 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kelly,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question.

The memorandums of understanding between CervicalCheck and the 15 colposcopy clinics show that the capacity available in colposcopy services in April 2018 was 19,500 new referrals per year.

The memorandum of understanding for 2020 is under review.

During the national lockdown, all of the colposcopy units remained open, offering prioritised services. In Q2, colposcopy services estimated that social distancing measures reduced capacity by 30%.

The pause in cervical screening in primary care from 30 March to 05 July 2020 due to COVID-19 has enabled colposcopy clinics offer appointments to women sooner, and reduce waiting lists considerably. This is maximizing available capacity for new referrals arising since the restart of screening on 06 July.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Fiona Murphy
Chief Executive
National Screening Service

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BreastCheck
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Coik
The National Breast Screening Programme



CervicalCheck
AN CLÁR NAISIÚNTA SCAGTHÁSTÁLA CEIRBEACS
THE NATIONAL CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAMME



BowelScreen
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Putóige
The National Bowel Screening Programme



Diabetic
RetinaScreen
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Scríonú de Dhráibéigh
The National Diabetic Retinal Screening Programme