



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

OFFICE OF THE CEO
SOUTH / SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL GROUP
ERINVILLE
WESTERN ROAD
CORK
Tel: 021 – 492150

25th June 2020

Deputy Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

RE: 9482/20

*** To ask the Minister for Health the number of appointments that have been cancelled by month in Cork University Hospital and Mercy University Hospital, Cork since February 2020- Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire.**

Dear Deputy Ó Laoghaire,

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. We have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The figures outlined in table 1 below for both Cork University Hospital and Mercy University Hospital include outpatient, elective inpatient, day case and endoscopy appointments that were cancelled since February 2020:

Table 1

<u>Hospital</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cork University Hospital	*10,531	5,853	3,543	19,927
Mercy University Hospital	2,044	1,562	421	4,027

*Please note this figure includes Radiology Appointments. Appointments are made 3 weeks in advance so no further Radiology appointments were cancelled as they were not scheduled beyond March.

You will be aware that the majority of the above appointments were cancelled due to Covid-19, however, there are also a number of other reasons for the cancellation of appointments such as cancellation by the patient, rescheduling of an appointment on the basis of clinical need etc.

Please note that a significant number of outpatient appointments that were cancelled due to Covid-19 have since been rescheduled or have taken place in person or virtually/ telephonically.

It is important to highlight that all hospitals in Cork and throughout the South/ South West Hospital Group are working extremely hard to adapt to the new ways of working that Covid-19 has presented us with while ensuring that patient safety remains our priority.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerry O'Dwyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mr. Gerry O' Dwyer
CEO,
South/South West Hospital Group
E-mail ceo.sswhg@hse.ie