



National Doctors Training and Planning
Health Service Executive
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Oiliúint agus Pleanáil Náisiúnta na nDochtúirí
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05 March 2020

Deputy Shortall
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ Ref 3206/20

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultants here operating under the 1997 category II contract; and the ratio of public to private patients allowed under this contract".

Dear Deputy Shortall

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 below is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 05/02/20. The Consultants Module within DIME produces an electronic post record created by the Consultants Division for every consultant post which is approved by the Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC). Sites are then able to assign consultants to their respective posts. DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce. Currently there is an estimated 98% compliance rate and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites.

There are currently **139** Consultants in CAAC approved consultant posts that hold the 1997 Category II consultant contract. The number of consultants employed refers to posts currently filled regardless of tenure, both permanent & locum.

The ratio of public to private patients under this contract varies by clinical site but is defined by the Department of Health. The details are outlined in the Department of Health Circular "Holders of Consultant Contract 1997 – Measurement of on-site Private Practice", dated 25 June 2019, which can be found at:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/hr-circulars/hr-circular-014-2019-re-holders-of-consultant-contract-1997-%E2%80%93-measurement-of-on-site-private-practice.pdf>

Yours sincerely

Eddie Staddon
General Manager
National Doctors Training and Planning