



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

**8<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

**PQ Number:** 6193/20

**Question:** To ask the Minister for Health the details of the use of laboratories here for Covid-19 testing; if the HSE has reduced its planned or agreed use of these laboratories; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Stephen Donnelly

**Request Type:** Direct Written Response to [stephen.donnelly@oireachtas.ie](mailto:stephen.donnelly@oireachtas.ie)

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question.

Please see table below regarding laboratories undertaking laboratory tests for COVID 19 on behalf of the HSE. Any laboratory undertaking Covid19 testing, which is a notable communicable disease must notify the Health Protection Surveillance Centre of any positive cases. The testing strategy requirements are defined by the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE). NPHE determined based on World Health Organisation (WHO) guidance that our maximum requirement would be in the region of 15,000 tests per day as a result the HSE worked to establish a testing and tracing system that could meet this requirement. This included putting:-

- Appropriate referral pathways in place.
- Sampling centres in place.
- Laboratories/testing capacity in place including adequate supply of reagents and test kits/contract tracing centres.

This was done in a very short timeframe and clearly there were many challenges in establishing the service to achieve the required capacity. In relation to laboratories the HSE established a taskforce to oversee establishment of the COVID 19 testing system.

Three key strategy objective were identified:-

- Develop and secure Covid19 laboratory testing for 15,000 per day.
- Ensure sufficient supply and diverse reagents and testing to support those laboratories.
- Develop improved information and information systems which would support the process.

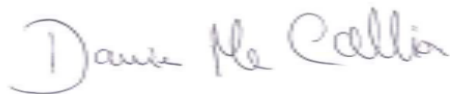
I hope the above gives insight in to the overall approach and the list of labs currently providing testing is outlined in the table below.

<b><i>Hospital Group</i></b>	<b><i>Hospital Laboratory</i></b>
<b><i>PUBLIC HOSPITALS</i></b>	
RCSI	Beaumont
RCSI	Cavan
RCSI	Connolly
RCSI	Drogheda
RCSI	Rotunda
CHI	CHI Crumlin
CHI	CHI Temple Street
Ireland East	Mater
Ireland East	St.Vincent's
Ireland East	Mullingar
Ireland East	Navan
Ireland East	Cappagh
Ireland East	National Maternity
Ireland East	Wexford
Ireland East	St.Lukes Kilkenny
Dublin Midlands	Tullamore
Dublin Midlands	Portlaoise
Dublin Midlands	St.James
Dublin Midlands	Tallaght
Dublin Midlands	Naas
Dublin Midlands	Coombe
Saolta	Galway University
Saolta	Portiuncula
Saolta	Letterkenny
Saolta	Sligo
Saolta	Mayo University Hospital
UL Hospitals	University Hospital Limerick
South/South West	Cork University Hospital
South/South West	Mercy University Hospital
South/South West	University Hospital Waterford
South/South West	University Hospital Kerry
<b><i>PUBLIC HOSPITAL SECTOR</i></b>	
	Hermitage Medical Centre
	Bon Secours Tralee
	Bon Secours Cork
	Bon Secours Galway
	Bon Secours Dublin
	Bons Limerick
	Blackrock Clinic
	Mater Private Dublin
Mater Private Cork	

	Beacon Hospital
	Galway Clinic
<b>COMMUNITY PRIVATE LABS</b>	Cherry Orchard
	NVRL
	NVRL/Eurofins
	Backweston(DAFM)
	Enfer

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

Yours sincerely,



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**Damien McCallion**  
**National Director, HSE**