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Deputy Burke  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ Ref 36259/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of certified lactation consultants working in the 19 maternity units across the country; the number in each unit in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Burke

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.

A range of supports for breastfeeding are provided from ante natal care services, care immediately after birth and throughout the post-natal period in hospital and community services. Table 1 below outlines the location and number of staff working in a variety of full and part time dedicated breastfeeding roles in maternity services.

Hospital	No of midwives/nurses in dedicated breastfeeding posts	Additional Information
<b>Ireland East Hospital Group</b>		
National Maternity Hospital Dublin	3	
Wexford Hospital	0	Post sanctioned, waiting recruitment
St. Luke's Hospital Kilkenny	1	
Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar Co Westmeath	1	
<b>Dublin Midlands Hospital Group</b>		
Coombe Women and Infant's University Hospital Dublin	3	
Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise	1	
<b>RCSI</b>		
Rotunda Hospital Dublin	2	
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda	2	
Cavan General Hospital	2	
<b>University of Limerick Hospital Group</b>		
University Maternity Hospital Limerick	2	
<b>Saolta Hospital Group</b>		
University College Hospital Galway	1	
Letterkenny General Hospital	0	Post sanctioned, waiting recruitment
Mayo General Hospital Castlebar	0	
Sligo General Hospital	0	
Portiuncula Hospital Ballinasloe	1	
<b>South/ South West Hospital Group</b>		
Cork University Maternity Hospital	2	
South Tipperary General Hospital Clonmel	1	
Kerry General Hospital	1	
University Hospital Waterford	0	Post sanctioned, waiting recruitment

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



**Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme**