



Géaroibríochtaí
 Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar
 Míleata Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

Acute Operations
 Unit 4A, The Dargan Building, Heuston South Quarter,
 Military Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8

☎: 0179 59971 📧: acute.operations@hse.ie

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Deputy John Lahart TD

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2

PQ No. 32192/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of critical care and ICU nurses employed across the health system prior to Covid-19; the number of new nurses trained with the specific skills required for critical care and ICU have been employed since Covid-19; the number in training; and the plans there are in place to train more.

Dear Deputy Lahart,

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.

Response:

Number of critical care and ICU nurses employed across the health system prior to Covid-19					
Clinical Nurse Manager 3	Clinical Nurse Manager 2	Clinical Nurse Manager 1	Clinical Nurse Educators	Staff Nurse	Critical Care Audit Nurse
12.6 WTE	102.3 WTE	40.6 WTE	42.6 WTE	1211.9 WTE	20.4 WTE

Number of new nurses trained with the specific skills required for critical care and ICU have been employed since Covid-19			
<i>*There has been an additional WTE per grade since September 2019-September 2020</i>			
Clinical Nurse Manager 3	Clinical Nurse Manager 2	Clinical Nurse Manager 1	Staff Nurse
0.1 WTE	3 WTE	1.5 WTE	147.3 WTE <i>**Training of this grade is on-going</i>

Based on 2019 figures, between the Post Graduate Diploma in Critical Care Nursing and the National Foundation Education Module in Critical Care Nursing courses there are approximately 200 Nurses in Training.

Budget allocation has been received to increase the intake onto the National Foundation Education Module in Critical Care Nursing by an additional 400 Nurses. At present, this course can cater for 120 Nurses per year.

The Post Graduate diploma in Critical Care Nursing is delivered by UCD, UCC, NUIG, RCSI & Trinity. Annually approximately 70-100 Nurses complete this course. Additional funding to increase this number by 50 Nurses per year has been secured.

There are currently 44 WTE Clinical Nurse Educators in Critical Care. Funding for an additional 30 WTE such posts have been secured to give the professional supports needed during training.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Benton

General Manager

Acute Operations