



Easáinseannach na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive



Ospidéal Ollscoile Chorcaí  
Cork University Hospital

**Cork University Hospital,  
Wilton,  
Cork.  
Ireland.**

**Telephone: 021 – 4922473  
Fax: 021 – 4342690**

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020

PQ – 2531/20

Deputy Danny Healy-Rae  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**“To ask the Minister for Health if information will be provided regarding the breast clinic at Cork University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter”**

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae

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 EMB for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Since March 2020 CUH Breast Unit has received 2,531 new patient referrals and has seen 1,735 new patients,

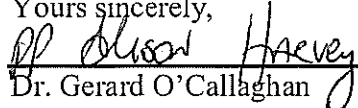
Due to the COVID outbreak the capacity to see new patients decreased from 150 patients weekly to 60 patients weekly due to need for social distancing in the clinical areas, This capacity has now increased again to 110 patients weekly.

There are 49 referrals which have been triaged as urgent that are awaiting appointments to be seen and these will all be seen within the next 2 weeks as per NCCP guidelines.

There are 1,233 referrals which have been triaged as non-urgent awaiting to be seen, In order to deal with the backlog, CUH staff have committed to doing extra clinics on an overtime basis and these will run outside of normal working hours over the coming weeks and months.

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, appearing to read "Dr. Gerard O'Callaghan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

---

Dr. Gerard O'Callaghan  
Interim Chief Executive Officer