

6th December 2021

Deputy Jennifer Whitmore T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
E: jennifer.whitmore@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 59153/21 – Neurology services, St. Vincent’s Hospital,

“To ask the Minister for Health the available neurology services in St. Vincent’s Hospital, Dublin; the current number of neurology nurses in the hospital; the current list of vacancies in this service; the status of recruitment for vacancies; and if additional neurology nurses will be recruited to reach the international guidelines’ recommendation of 22 neurology nurse specialists.”

Dear Deputy Whitmore,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on neurology services in St. Vincent’s University Hospital, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.


I have had this matter examined and am advised that the Neurology Department in St Vincent’s University Hospital provides regional services in all aspects of general Neurology including Migraine and Epilepsy services in addition to tertiary services for people with Multiple Sclerosis; Cognitive Disorders; Dystonia and Movement Disorders and Parkinson Disease. The Neurology Department offers an inpatient, outpatient and consult service.

There are currently 10 specialist nursing positions in Neurology of which 8 are in post. Of the 2 vacant positions, 1 specialist nurse is commencing on 13th December 2021 and the post of Advanced Nurse Practitioner in Multiple Sclerosis will be advertised presently. The Neurology Ward is staffed with 1CNM 2 and 8.5 staff nurses. There is currently a vacancy for a 0.5 WTE staff nurse.

The recruitment of nurses is a key priority of St Vincent’s University Hospital. Nurse recruitment is a priority on a national level and in the Ireland East Hospital Group which includes St Vincent’s University Hospital.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery