

CC/VAW/MC

Email: pqmidwestacute@hse.ie

20th December 2021

Ms Violet-Anne Wynne TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 61726/21, PQ 61722/21, PQ 61723/21

***To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent advanced nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists and integrated care clinical nurse specialists that are currently in-post in University of Limerick Hospitals Group adult diabetes services. -Violet-Anne Wynne**

***To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital admissions that occurred through University of Limerick Hospitals Group accident and emergency or the acute medical assessment unit due to diabetic ketoacidosis in persons with pre-existing diabetes or diagnosed with diabetes after admission in each of the years 2017 to 2020, in tabular form. -Violet-Anne Wynne**

***To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital admissions that occurred through University of Limerick Hospitals Group accident and emergency or the acute medical assessment unit due to severe hypoglycaemia in each of the years 2017 to 2020 in the age ranges 18 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64 and over 65 years of age in tabular form. -Violet-Anne Wynne**

Dear Deputy Wynne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Please see below data in relation to your question regarding the number of hospital admissions through our ED and medical assessment units that were due to diabetic ketoacidosis or severe hypoglycaemia:

All ages	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
University Hospital Limerick ED	91	128	75	95	389
St. Johns Hospital; Limerick MAU	2	2	3	6	13
Ennis Hospital MAU	1	1	1	5	8
Nenagh Hospital MAU	4	2	0	3	9
Total	98	133	79	109	419

Age 18 +	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
University Hospital Limerick ED	72	110	65	75	322
St. Johns Hospital MAU	2	2	3	6	13
Ennis Hospital MAU	1	1	1	5	8
Nenagh Hospital MAU	4	2	0	3	9
Total	79	115	69	89	352

In addition, please see below the number of whole-time equivalent clinical nurse specialists currently working in our Diabetes Service:

Site	Support (AMP / CNS)	Current WTE
University Hospital Limerick	CNS	3.0
Ennis Hospital	CNS	1.0
Nenagh Hospital	CNS	Nil*
St John's Hospital	CNS	Nil*
University Maternity Hospital, Limerick	AMP (Advanced Midwife Practitioner)	1.0

***1.0 CNS post currently vacant**

UL Hospitals Group recognises the need for additional resources within our adult diabetic services. This is a core focus for UL Hospitals Group and we are committed to improving the service for our patients.

In December 2020, UL Hospitals Group received confirmation of funding to recruit three additional dietetic posts for the treatment of adult diabetes. This funding has been made available through the national clinical programme for diabetes. These posts include two senior dieticians and one staff grade dietician. I can confirm that the recruitment process for the two senior dieticians is at an advanced stage. The recruitment process is also ongoing for the staff grade dietician. We will be able to provide a more precise timeline on when we expect successful candidates to take up posts in the near future.

A second consultant endocrinologist took up post on the 1st October 2020. Two further consultant endocrinology posts have been approved for University Hospital Limerick. These posts are currently being progressed through the approved HR process.

The Adult Diabetes Service is also supported by a dedicated team of Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) and Staff Nurses. Four Diabetic CNS posts are approved for University Hospital Limerick. Of these, three are in position and the 4th is expected to take up position in January 2022.

Developing our diabetes services is a core focus for UL Hospitals Group and we are committed to improving this service for our patients.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.



Working together, caring for you

Ospidéal na hOllscoile, Luimneach,
Bóthar Naomh Neasáin, Tuar an Daill, Luimneach V94 F858
Tel: 061 301111 Facs: 061 301165

University Hospital Limerick,
St. Nessian's Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick V94 F858
Tel: 061 301111 Fax: 061 301165

Yours sincerely,

PP Colette Cowan

Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group