

January 18th 2021

PQ 1448/21 To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to reports that a number of oxygen generators purchased by University Hospital Galway in 2020 in response to the Covid-19 crisis have proven deficient and are not currently in use; if this matter is being investigated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Mairead Farrell.

Dear Deputy Farrell,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above, the following outlines the situation.

I have established that 2 oxygen generator units were assembled in packaged plant rooms and commissioned off-site during 2020, as a contingency measure to augment oxygen supplies at University Hospital Galway (UHG).

The oxygen generator plant assemblies are in full working order.

The HSE is in the process of completing the site-specific connections for the oxygen generators which include both a primary and back-up installation for UHG. This is available to augment the current supply of oxygen as required during the current COVID surge situation.

As part of the site-specific setup of the oxygen generators, a further series of tests will be carried out to ensure site acceptance compliance is in order and the generators are ready to supply oxygen to the hospital.

It is anticipated that the oxygen generators will be connected for use in the coming days.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely



Chris Kane
General Manager
Galway University Hospitals