

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare
Office of Head of Primary Care
HSE Community Services Building
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Co. Kerry
V92 YA25

1st April, 2021

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Mr. Pdraig O'Sullivan, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ re no 14551/21

"To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address the recruitment challenges that the health service is facing in trying to find suitably qualified staff for the ophthalmic service in primary care specifically in the Cork and Kerry region; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy O' Sullivan,

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.

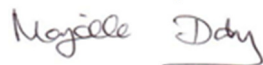
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) currently has some vacant Orthoptic and Optometrists posts. There are on-going active recruitment drives within CKCH to try to source suitably qualified Optometrists and Orthoptists for the Ophthalmic Services in the Cork and Kerry region.

However, we are experiencing a shortage in the availability of Orthoptists and are actively engaging with HR to recruit these posts. A recent recruitment campaign for Optometrists is at interview stage and we hope to have a successful outcome.

We have made a temporary arrangement in that an existing Orthoptic staff member has agreed to remain in post for a period of time.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Majella Daly
Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare