

March 31st 2021

PQ 15283/21 To ask the Minister for Health if the decision to let go 15 newly qualified doctors from UCH Galway will be reversed given the doctors are needed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Seán Canney

Dear Deputy Canney,

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.

The Saolta Hospital Group are usually allocated approximately 133 interns in a normal year.

Last year due to COVID, 183 intern places were allocated and offered, of which 173 positions were filled.

For July 2021, as per Department Of Health, it appears that 153 positions are going to be offered to the Saolta Hospital group which is 20 interns above what is normally allocated, with Galway University Hospital due to receive approximately 8-9 of these.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Kane

General Manager

**Galway University Hospitals**