



**Galway
University
Hospitals**

Ospidéal na h-Ollscoile Gaillimh
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GALWAY
MERLIN PARK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

**General Manager's Office
University Hospital Galway
Newcastle Road
Galway
Tel: (091) 544200**

June 30th 2021

PQ 23635/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of cancelled hospital appointments in University Hospital Galway in 2020 and to date in 2021. Peadar Tóibín

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

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.

It is quite complicated to unpick and summarise all of the data due to the nature of the way the information has been recorded. Detailed below are the approximate number of patients who had appointments adjusted (i.e. on the system as cancelled or rescheduled) along with details of whether this was hospital initiated or patient initiated.

The ****Other** figures include numerous reasons e.g. Patient Death, bring forward of appointments, movement of patient appointments to accommodate other cancellations and capture of all reasons was not possible in real time during the recent the cyber-attack.

It is important to note that not all hospital initiated cancellations should be viewed as negative, in 2020 almost 4,000 patients had appointments brought forward, and 155 were discharged back to their GP etc.

| Year | Hospital Initiated | Patient Initiated | **Other | Total |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| 2020 | 26,155 | 10,020 | 25,057 | 61,232 |
| 2021 (to end June) | 9,856 | 3,886 | 30,478 | 44,220 |

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Kane

General Manager, Galway University Hospitals