

CC/MB/MC

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie

23rd November 2021

Mr Martin Browne TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 55029/21

*** To ask the Minister for Health if consideration is being given to enhancing the role of the Injury Unit at Nenagh Hospital in view of the pressure that the emergency department at University Hospital Limerick experiences on a regular basis. -Martin Browne**

Dear Deputy Browne,

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.

The Nenagh Hospital Injury Unit is crucial to relieving pressure on the Emergency Department at University Hospital Limerick, which is required for the treatment of the most seriously ill patients in the region.

The Injury Unit at Nenagh Hospital is open seven days a week from 8am-8pm, and can be contacted on 067-42311. The Injury Unit at Nenagh Hospital, which serves the population of North Tipperary, processed 8,672 attendances during 2020. In addition, across UL Hospitals Group, presentations at Injury Units accounted for 31.2% of all emergency presentations in 2020. To help alleviate pressure on the ED, anyone attending with a minor injury is re-directed for care to their nearest Injury Unit.

Patients attending the Injury Unit in Nenagh benefit from the expertise and care of a consultant-led team of doctors, Registered Advanced Nurse Practitioners (RANPs), nurses, and other healthcare professionals who are highly experienced in the treatment of injuries that may not be threatening to life and limb, but which nonetheless require medical attention and treatment.

The Nenagh Unit is among 11 Injury Units across the country. Injury Units provide patients with the same degree of expertise and service as Emergency Departments. The only exceptions are patients with serious head, back and neck injuries, abdominal (stomach) pain, medical illnesses or mental health problems, and children under the age of five years.



Working together, caring for you

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

Yours sincerely,

Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group