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22nd October, 2021

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

PQ ref 50796/21

"To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the shortage of chiropodists in West Cork; and the measure that are been taken to address same; 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.

There is indeed a shortage of Podiatrists in West Cork. There is currently a vacancy arising from a resignation and a retirement.

There have been additional resources allocated to West Cork Podiatry Service which has resulted in two Senior Posts being available for this Network. One of these posts has been advertised through the National Recruitment Service so far, but unfortunately, there was no interest expressed. The other post will be advertised through NRS in the coming weeks. We also intend to hold a local recruitment campaign for any vacant posts remaining unfilled through NRS in CHO4 with a robust communication campaign to maximise out on attracting eligible candidates.

In circumstances whereby there is a significant change in clinical presentation individuals are advised to consult with their General Practitioner.

We will continue our endeavours to fill these vacancies as speedily as possible, if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Priscilla Lynch
Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare