



**Tallaght
University
Hospital**

Ospidéal
Ollscoile
Thamhlachta

An Academic Partner of Trinity College Dublin

20th October 2021

Mr Paul Murphy
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ ref 51245/21

Dear Deputy Murphy

I write in response to the PQ below and have given the response beneath the PQ.

PQ ref 51245/21

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a campaign (details supplied); his plans to recruit the additional nurses needed nationally and in Tallaght University Hospital which based on catchment area, national and international guidelines should have 20 neurology nurses but currently only has 3.5. – Deputy Paul Murphy

Response

The Neurology service at Tallaght University Hospital current has 3.5 WTE specialised nursing posts working across areas such as Epilepsy, management of headaches and providing specialist care and surveillance to neurology patients with varying debilitating conditions. The Hospital has seen improvements in waiting time for assessment of patients referred for the management of Headache. Supported by funding from the NTPF and also a project supported through SlainteCare. This is multidisciplinary project where there has been over 650 patient appointments to date, 119 patients have been discharged back to the care of their GP's. The Nurse led clinics facilitate the Consultant neurologist to see more new patient, thus reducing waiting times further.

Additionally, TUH have 1 WTE Registered ANP and 2 WTE CNS in Stroke Care who also work collaboratively with the Neurology Team as part of our Stroke Service.

TUH has submitted proposals for additional Nursing posts as part of the 2022 estimates. These roles will support further development in the areas of headache, epilepsy and MS.

Yours sincerely

MR JOHN KELLY
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE