



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Chief Operations Officer,
Saolta University Health Care Group,
Old Nurses Home,
University Hospital,
Newcastle Road.
Galway.
Tel: 091 893800

Catherine Connolly, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

7th October 2021

PQ43631/21 To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on waiting lists for echocardiography services across primary care in Galway city and county in tabular form; the number of these patients waiting 3, 6, 9, 12 and 18 months, and 2, 3 and 4 plus years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Connolly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question/Public Representation which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Galway University Hospital was funded under Slaintecare Integration Funding to provide a Community Cardiac Diagnostics Service in Primary Care Centres in Tuam, Gort, Claremorris and Galway City. This service allows patients to receive cardiac investigation closer to home in a primary care centre, following direct referral by their GP.

Similarly, Portlincula University Hospital provides a Heart Failure community cardiac diagnostic service in Primary Care Centres in Ballinasloe, Mountbellew, Monksland and Portumna.

This service has been provided by a Cardiac Physiologist from the hospitals and is performed under the clinical governance of the hospitals.

The waiting times for Echocardiography in Primary Care Centres in Tuam, Gort, Claremorris and Galway City is as follows: (Jan to Aug 2021)

- 89% of patients receive tests within 6 weeks of referral;
- 55% had appointments in 2 weeks or less and all patients had their test performed within 8 weeks

The waiting times for Echocardiography in Primary Care Centres in Ballinasloe, Mountbellew, Monksland and Portumna is 2-4 weeks.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Ann Cosgrove,
Chief Operations Officer,
Saoita University Health Care Group**