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26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Deputy Sorca Clarke T.D.,  
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**Re: PQ 18135/22– Neurology Nurses, Mater Hospital**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the action that has been taken to ensure that the shortage of neurology nurse specialists in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital is addressed given that this hospital is the main neurology centre for persons in counties Longford and Westmeath; and the engagement he has had with an association (details supplied) in relation to its campaign for 100 extra neurology nurse specialists across Ireland which includes eight extra nurses for the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital.  
\*Details Supplied: the Neurological Association of Ireland”**

Dear Deputy Clarke,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on neurology nurse specialists in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

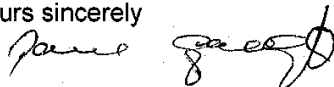
I have had this matter examined and am advised that 4 Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) & 2 Student Nurses (SNs) worked in Neurology in 2016 in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital. The 2 Student Nurses were funded separately via the Dublin Neurological Institute(DNI).

In 2018, two additional CNS posts were ratified for the Deep Brain Stimulation Service – which provided a total of 6 Clinical Nurse Specialists. Dublin Neurological Institute (DNI) funding for the 2 Student Nurses (SNs) posts ceased. This remains the staffing complement in 2021.

A business case was submitted seeking additional resources – including 2 Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANP), 3 Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) and a Staff Nurse. The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital are not aware at the moment of any funding for any additional posts.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher  
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery



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