

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Átha Cliath 8 Office of the National Director of Human Resources

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David Cullinane T.D.

11<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

PQ 19472/22 To ask the Minister for Health his views on physician associates and the future role he envisages for them in the health service; the number of physician associates employed across statutory and public voluntary hospitals; the salary applicable to such posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question above which was sent to the HSE for reply.

The grade of Physician Associate has not been introduced into the Irish Public Health Service. The potential role of any proposed new grade of Health and Social Care practitioners would be a matter for consideration by the Department of Health in the context of Sláintecare reforms. The position of the HSE is that the potential introduction and role of any such grade would be dependent on consultation with the Department of Health, as well as other key stakeholders, as determined by the Department of Health. The HSE does not collect census data on grades not employed by the health service.

Yours sincerely,

Marie d' Sullwan

Marie O'Sullivan National HR