



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

www.hse.ie
@hselive

T: 01 6352209/2682
E: community.primarycare@hse.ie

19th December, 2022

Deputy Denis Naughten,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 62952/22 – To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 307 of 15 September 2022, the number of full-time posts allocated to post-acute and long-Covid clinics by clinic and speciality; if the position has been filled; if an offer has been made, if a recruitment competition is ongoing and or if the HSE recruitment process has commenced in light of emerging evidence on long-Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Denis Naughten

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 62952/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE recognises the need to provide follow up support and care for patients experiencing prolonged signs and symptoms of Covid-19. In response to this it has developed an Interim Model of Care (MoC) for Long Covid which was finalised in September 2021. The aim of the MoC is to provide a national approach to the provision of services and supports for patients experiencing prolonged symptoms of Covid-19. It sets out a framework for the provision of these services and supports spanning General Practice, Community Services, Acute Hospitals and Mental Health Services. The resultant Interim MoC recommended the development of:

1. Eight Post-Acute Covid clinics
2. Six Long Covid clinics
3. A tertiary referral neurocognitive clinic for those with complex neuro-cognitive/neuropsychological symptoms

Implementation of the MoC commenced in early 2022 and a priority for implementation is the development of specialist clinics. The MoC identifies the resources and personnel required for each of these clinics including Infectious Disease Consultants, Respiratory Consultants, Neurologists and Psychiatrists and additional multi-disciplinary staff to support the clinics, including Clinical Psychologists. In this regard €2.2 million was provided in 2022 to fund these post. It is estimated that €1.45 million had been spent to date with spend increasing month on month as staff are being on-boarded.

Table 1: Recruitment Status for Post-Acute COVID clinics as at 1st November 2022

Hospital Sites	Post	WTE	Recruitment status
Galway University	Respiratory Consultant	1	Recruitment ongoing



Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	1	Recruitment ongoing
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment ongoing
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment ongoing
	Cardiac Physiologist	0.2	Recruitment ongoing
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruited ongoing
St James University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	1.5	Recruited
	Administration	1	Recruited
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruited
Cork University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruited
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
University Hospital Limerick	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruited
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Advanced Nurse Practitioner	1	Recruitment on-going
Letterkenny University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruitment on-going
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruited
Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruited
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruited
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
Mater University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruited
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruited
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruited
Tallaght University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruited
	Administration	0.5	Recruited
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Occupational therapist	0.5	Recruitment ongoing
	Assistant Psychologist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment ongoing

I trust this information is of assistance to you.



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Seán McArt'.

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations