



7th July 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 35595/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultant posts which are fully-funded but vacant by consultant type; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 03 May 2022. DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites. As DIME is a live system it must be noted that there can be variances in the figures published dependent on the run date of the report as entries can be made with a retrospective date.

Table 1: Total number of Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) Approved Posts as at 03.05.2022

| Filled | Unknown Status | Vacant | Vacant Posts with a future start date | Newly created service posts under recruitment | Total |
|--------|----------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---|-------|
| 3454 | 6 | 124 | 23 | 326 | 3933 |

Table 2: Total Number of CAAC Approved consultant posts by specialty as at 03.05.2022

| Medical Discipline | Filled | Unknown | Vacant | Vacant Posts with future start date | Newly created service posts under recruitment | Total |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|--------|-------------------------------------|---|-------|
| Anaesthesiology | 404 | | 13 | 2 | 23 | 442 |
| Emergency Medicine | 124 | | 2 | | 14 | 140 |
| Intensive Care Medicine | 36 | | 2 | 2 | 4 | 44 |
| Medicine | 872 | 1 | 32 | 11 | 137 | 1053 |
| Obstetrics & Gynaecology | 179 | | 8 | | 7 | 194 |
| Paediatrics | 225 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 17 | 249 |
| Pathology | 297 | | 10 | 2 | 35 | 344 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Psychiatry | 451 | 4 | 30 | 1 | 29 | 515 |
| Radiology | 313 | | 12 | 2 | 32 | 359 |
| Surgery | 553 | | 10 | 2 | 28 | 593 |
| Total | 3454 | 6 | 124 | 23 | 326 | 3933 |

Definitions

Approved: The post has been approved through the Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) process.

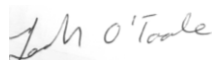
Filled: The clinical site has verified that a Consultant currently occupies this post.

Vacant: Recruitment for the post may be underway but the clinical site has verified on DIME that this is currently a vacant post. An appointment may have been made to a number of these vacancies with a prospective start date. It should be noted that there is often a significant period of time between approval of a consultant post through CAAC to the commencement of the recruitment process and ultimately the recruitment of a Consultant to a post.

The vacancy figure includes a combination of posts that have previously been filled but have become vacant and posts that have never been filled.

Unknown: The clinical site has not yet assigned a Consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant.

Newly created service posts under recruitment: Newly approved CAAC posts that are currently undergoing a recruitment and are various stages of the process.



Leah O'Toole

Assistant National Director