



**Stiúrtóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
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Catherine Murphy T.D.

19th July , 2022

PQ 35774/22 To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing specialist vacancies in cardiology. -Catherine Murphy

Dear Deputy,

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

Given the size and complexity of the health services, staff are recruited by local services, through national recruitment initiatives and through external agencies by the HSE and Section 38 Voluntary Hospitals and agencies. In addition, the HSE also has on-going international recruitment campaigns, which take place in a competitive environment against global shortages of health professionals. Recruitment activities are undertaken to fill both vacancies and new service development posts.

The HSE does not have a central grade code for Nursing Specialists in Cardiology – the numbers of Nursing Specialists in Cardiology are included in the staff census within the Nursing workforce grouping.

The HSE conducts a monthly census of public health services employment across all services covering the HSE and Section 38 Voluntary Hospitals & Agencies. The Health Services Personnel Census (HSPC) is the official employment count for the public health sector and is routinely published at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/workforce-reporting/> , At May 2022, the HSE staff census records there are 2,647 Nurse/ Midwife Specialist & AN/MP positions filled – this figure includes Nursing Specialists in Cardiology.

The HSE does not collate a vacancy rate or details on vacancies. Instead, through our planning process, we utilise the staff turnover rate, which is in the order of 6- 7% overall. This figure is used to plan for the replacement of these staff across our services, incorporated into our overall planning for recruitment of not only replacement posts, but equally our new service development posts.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan
National HR**