



Eoidlinc-eannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive



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PQ – 22692/22

Deputy Roisin Shortall  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

“To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to reports that outpatient appointments at a hospital (CUH) are being cancelled or rescheduled without any reason being given to patients, if he will issue guidance to the Health Service Executive which urges that patients be provided with a reason for the cancellation of their appointments, and if he will make a statement on the matter”

Dear Deputy Shortall

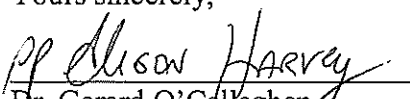
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

While Cork University Hospital understands the impact of cancelling/rescheduling outpatient appointments has on a patient, unfortunately there are numerous reasons why on occasions outpatient appointments are rescheduled.

There can be multiple reasons for cancelling appointments, both medical and non medical. Advising patients of the reason for the cancellation would have a large impact on hospitals resources, both administrative and clinical, and is not feasible at present.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
Dr. Gerard O'Callaghan  
Interim Chief Executive Officer