



**Galway
University
Hospitals**

Ospidéal na h-Ollscoile Gaillimh
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GALWAY
MERLIN PARK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

**General Manager's Office
University Hospital Galway
Newcastle Road
Galway
Tel: (091) 544200**

June 16 2022

PQ Ref. 27386 /22

To ask the Minister for Health the progress that is being made with the construction of a new emergency department for University Hospital Galway; when the additional bed capacity will be made available; the additional staff that will be recruited in order to cope with the increased workload; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Seán Canney

Dear Deputy Canney,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above, the following outlines the situation.

The construction of the interim (temporary) ED (under current Emergency COVID-19 legislation & regulations (SI 93 & SI 113 commenced in June 2021 and is programmed to be completed in Q3 2022. This accommodation shall serve as an enabling advanced works project to clear the site for the permanent ED and Women & Children's development. The handover of the Phase 1 temporary Emergency Department is scheduled for handover from the contractor in mid-July 2022 and then commissioning will take approx. 3-4 weeks. Phase 2/Internal area is scheduled for handover in September 2022.

TED will have more capacity (43) than ED pre Covid (34). However during Covid ED was spread over two areas which included ED and the Acute Surgical Assessment unit to allow for the Red (Covid) and the Green (Non Covid) streaming and to ensure segregation. This streaming / segregation have been ceased nationally so when TED opens all ED will be in one area. The Temporary ED (TED) is to provide a temporary area for the Emergency department and will provide all single closed cubicles & extra Resuscitation bays.

The Mars (Multidisciplinary Allied Response Team) and FFD (frailty) team are present in ED and ensure early intervention for frailty screening and pathways to minimise Patient Experience Time and also admission avoidance.

There will be restoration of the Acute Medical Unit pathways and Acute Surgical Assessment pathways to assist with flow out and streaming from ED. This streaming will ensure the Right patient to right place from ED.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,


Chris Kane
General Manager
Galway University Hospitals

