



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

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29<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Deputy Holly Cairns  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 55158/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health if he will liaise with the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, to ensure that all medical, clinical, nursing, and therapy students in placements in training hospitals are provided with adequate changing, study and rest areas. Due: 21/11/2022**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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.

We received a response from two of the seven Hospital Groups in relation to this PQ.

SSWHG and UL Hospitals Group both confirmed that all medical, clinical, nursing, and therapy students in placements in training hospitals within the group are provided with adequate changing, study and rest areas.

The following information relates to University Hospital Limerick specifically.

- University Hospital Limerick (UHL) has a Clinical Education and Research Centre which facilitates medical student education and training, as well as that of qualified staff across the professions. This includes simulation training.
- Nursing students have tutorial rooms in the Nurses Home on the campus. Currently we are developing a teaching and changing space for allied health students which has been identified as a critical need. A funding application has been submitted to HSE Estates to extend the Clinical Education and Research Centre to accommodate additional students, promoting and enabling extended simulation facilities, research capacity and opportunities for interprofessional education.
- UHL also has a Health and Wellbeing Centre which provides exercise and mindful classes as well as changing facilities for all of our staff.
- Canteens are allocated in UHL for all staff members.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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John Smith  
Assistant National Director  
Acute Operations