



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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6th October 2022

Deputy Denis Naughten,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 45309/22 – To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 466 of 13 July 2022, the number of full-time posts allocated to post-acute and long-Covid clinics, by clinic and speciality; if the position has been filled; if an offer has been made, if a recruitment competition is ongoing, or if the HSE recruitment process has commenced in light of emerging evidence on long-Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Denis Naughten

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 45309/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE recognises the need to provide follow up support and care for patients experiencing prolonged signs and symptoms of Covid-19. In response to this it has developed an Interim Model Of Care (MoC) for Long Covid which was finalised in September 2021. The aim of the MoC is to provide a national approach to the provision of services and supports for patients experiencing prolonged symptoms of Covid-19. It sets out a framework for the provision of these services and supports spanning General Practice, Community Services, Acute Hospitals and Mental Health Services. The resultant Interim MoC recommended the development of six Long COVID clinics, eight Post-Acute COVID clinics and one tertiary referral neurocognitive clinic for those with complex neuro-cognitive/neuropsychological symptoms.

Implementation of the MoC commenced in January 2022. At this point, some of the designated hospital sites were already providing Long Covid and Post-Acute services on an interim basis while awaiting recruitment of full staffing as per the Model of Care. They have been established in response to local need and are leveraging existing resources and capacity. The HSE has been working with sites to expand their resources to ensure they can meet the requirements of the Model of Care.

The MoC identifies the resources and personnel required for each of these clinics including infectious disease consultants, respiratory consults, neurologists and additional multi-disciplinary staff to support the clinics. The HSE worked closely with clinicians and senior management at each site to map existing resources against what was outlined within the Model, this identified gaps within existing service provision and informed what additional resources were required. It also ensured that the resources allocated were reflective of what was required within a local context.

For the majority of posts Primary Notification Numbers were provided to each of the sites during March and April so that they could proceed with recruitment of the personnel associated with each of the clinics.



Recruitment is now underway and the HSE is continuing to engage with Strategic Workforce and Planning and with each of the individual sites to closely monitor recruitment. Please see appendix 1 for a full breakdown of posts and their recruitment status.

Table 1: Recruitment Status for Post-Acute COVID clinics

Hospital Sites	Post	WTE	Recruitment status
Galway University Hospital	Respiratory Consultant	1	Recruitment ongoing
	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	1	Recruitment ongoing
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment ongoing
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment ongoing
	Cardiac Physiologist	0.2	Recruitment ongoing
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruited ongoing
St James University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	1.5	Recruited
	Administration	1	Recruited
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruited
Cork University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruited
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
University Hospital Limerick	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Advanced Nurse Practitioner	1	Recruitment on-going
Letterkenny University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruitment on-going
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruited
	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruited
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
Mater University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruited



	Respiratory Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruited
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
Tallaght University Hospital	Respiratory Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	0.5	Recruited
	Administration	0.5	Recruited
	Cardiac Physiologist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Occupational therapist	0.5	Recruitment ongoing
	Assistant Psychologist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Medical Scientist	0.5	Recruitment ongoing

Table 2: Recruitment Status for Long COVID clinics

Hospital Sites	Post	WTE	Recruitment status
Galway University Hospital	Infectious Disease Consultant	1	Recruitment on-going
	Infectious Disease Registrar	1	Recruitment on-going
	Occupational Therapist	0.9	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Staff nurse	0.8	Recruitment on-going
	Psychologist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
St James's University Hospital	Infectious Disease Consultant	1	Recruited
	Infectious Disease Registrar	1	Recruited
	Occupational Therapist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Administration	1	Recruited
	Psychologist	0.8	Recruitment on-going
	Psychiatrist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Consultant Neurologist-as part of tertiary neuro-cognitive clinic	1	Recruited
Cork University Hospital	Infectious Disease Consultant	1	Recruitment on-going
	Infectious Disease Registrar	1	Recruitment on-going
	Occupational Therapist	1	Recruited
	Administration	1	Recruitment on-going
	Psychiatrist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
University Hospital Limerick	Recruitment being finalized		Recruitment being finalized
St Vincent's University Hospital	Infectious Disease Consultant	1	Recruited
	Infectious Disease Registrar	1	Recruited
	Physiotherapist	1	Recruitment on-going
	Clinical Nurse specialist	0.5	Recruitment on-going
	Psychologist	1	Recruitment on-going
Beaumont University Hospital	Infectious Disease Consultant	1	Recruitment ongoing
	Infectious Disease Registrar	1	Recruitment on-going
	Physiotherapist	1	Recruitment on-going



	Administration	1	Recruitment on-going
	Psychologist	0.5	Recruitment on-going

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Seán McArt'.

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations