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Re. **PQ 45887/22**: To ask the Minister for Health the number of radiologists to perform diagnostic tests working in each of the individual symptomatic breast disease clinics in each of the years 2012 to 2022 respectively, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) collects quality indicators related to the total numbers of mammograms reported per Consultant Radiologist per year which provides a partial estimation of Radiologist numbers - however, this data is not representative of Whole Time Equivalents (WTE's) within the symptomatic breast disease (SBD) clinics. NCCP do not have data on the WTE number of posts within the SBD services which would be required to answer this PQ.

It is important to note that many radiology posts which provide cover and service to the SBD services may be shared across SBD/BreastCheck and general Radiology services in many cancer centres.

It would be necessary for HSE Acute Operations/Hospitals to request the information from each and every individual SBD unit nationally and for reasons outlined above such an exercise would be unlikely to return data specific to radiologists confined to symptomatic breast disease alone.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely



Professor Risteárd Ó Laoide  
National Director  
National Cancer Control Programme