

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe & Conarthaí Príomhchúraim Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte

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12th October 2022

PQ 47456/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will support the training and qualification of staff in echocardiography through organisations (details supplied); if those seeking accreditation will be afforded the time and scope necessary to complete any additional work required; if fees for such programmes will be covered by the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke

Dear Deputy Burke,

Deputy Colm Burke

Dáil Eireann, Leinster House.

Dublin 2.

I refer to your parliamentary question which was passed to the HSE for response. A National ECC Diagnostics Working Group has been established by the Office of the ECC Programme to support the roll out of a national and equitable direct GP access diagnostics service and this includes echocardiography. Workforce development is an important component of this group's work to support the delivery of a high quality, safe direct GP access to echocardiography service and the issues you raise in your PQ are under active consideration by the working group.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Geraldine Crowley,

Assistant National Director,

Enhanced Community Care Programme &

Primary Care Contracts