



Géaroibríochtaí  
Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar  
Míleata Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

Acute Operations  
Unit 4A, The Dargan Building, Heuston South Quarter,  
Military Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8

☎: 0179 59971 📧: [acute.operations@hse.ie](mailto:acute.operations@hse.ie)

**Date: 20/04/2023**

Deputy Michael Lowry, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 16403/23**

**To ask the Minister for Health the steps that are being taken to ensure that appropriate funding is to be provided towards the employment of additional Parkinson's disease nurse specialists in neurology centres, and specifically in Tipperary University Hospital, University Hospital Limerick and University Hospital Waterford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Lowry,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

**Response:**

The National Clinical Programme for Neurology (NCPN) recognizes that skilled and highly trained staff add value to Neurological services and NCPN endorses the expansion of the workforce dedicated to Neurology and in line with the Neurology Model of Care (2016) and Sláintecare.

In it anticipated that funding will be forthcoming in 2023 to appoint 21 nursing post in neurology across the hospital groups. These posts will cover the sub specialist areas of Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Epilepsy, Neuro Muscular and Huntington's disease. These highly specialist nursing posts will be allocated to hospital sites as determined by the Clinical Programme for Neurology to address neurology service gaps and improve access to care.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



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**Emma Benton**

**General Manager**

**Acute Operations**