

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023

Deputy David Cullinane  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2  
E: [david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie](mailto:david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie)

**Re: PQ 4941/23 To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against patients at St Vincent's University Hospital for each month of 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and January 2023 in tabular form. –David Cullinane TD**

Dear Deputy Cullinane

I refer to the above parliamentary question which was sent to me for direct response.

I can advise that the relevant information in order to answer this query is available from the incident management system in St Vincent's University Hospital for the period from November 2019 to January 2023. Many incidents are recorded as "challenging behaviour" incidents for this period on the system, however, those that relate to alleged physical assault of patients are summarised in the table below. It should be noted that the majority of these incidents alleging physical assault of patients records the level of harm as predominately negligible or minor.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>January</b>	NA	3	2	2	3
<b>February</b>	NA	0	0	2	NA
<b>March</b>	NA	0	2	3	NA
<b>April</b>	NA	1	0	0	NA
<b>May</b>	NA	2	4	3	NA
<b>June</b>	NA	2	2	0	NA
<b>July</b>	NA	1	0	3	NA
<b>August</b>	NA	0	1	1	NA
<b>September</b>	NA	0	0	3	NA
<b>October</b>	NA	0	2	1	NA
<b>November</b>	1	0	0	0	NA
<b>December</b>	1	0	1	3	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>

I trust that this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely



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**Michele Tait**  
**Interim Chief Executive Officer**