

CC/VAW /MC

Email: pqmidwestacute@hse.ie

09th March 2022

Ms Violet-Anne Wynne TD,
Dàil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 5235/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of occasions that the adult diabetes outpatient clinic was cancelled at University Hospital Limerick during the years 2021 and 2022; the number of patients that were scheduled to attend each date that was cancelled; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Wynne,

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.

The below table outlines the total number of occasions that the adult diabetes outpatient clinic was cancelled at University Hospital Limerick during 2021 and 2022 and the number of patients scheduled to attend on those dates:

Year	Dates	Total cancellations on these dates
2021	05/01/2021	51
	19/05/2021	57
	28/07/2021	51
	04/08/2021	42
	11/08/2021	49
2022	18/05/2022	29
Total		279

It is important to note that the total number of patients cancelled in 2021 & 2022 is greater than the number of patients scheduled to attend the six cancelled clinics listed above.

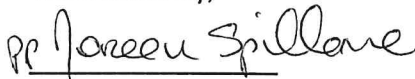
The below table outlines the total number of cancelled appointments at the outpatients diabetes clinic in University Hospital Limerick in 2021 and 2022

Year	Total number
2021	2,134
2022	2,053

Cancellations were primarily due to reduced capacity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to prioritise urgent patients. While the pandemic was a major factor for appointments being cancelled by the hospital, appointments were also cancelled for other reasons, including by the patients themselves.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Prof Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group