



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
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**Deputy Sean Sherlock,**  
**Dáil Eireann,**  
**Leinster House,**  
**Dublin 2.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023**

**PQ 33451/23 - To ask the Minister for Health what funding has been allocated to the ICGP to provide training and certification to health care professionals on long-acting reversible contraception insertion in 2022 and 2023; the number of health care professionals who have availed of training and certification in the same time period; the resultant increase in capacity of LARC-trained health care professionals; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

I refer to the above PQ received in our office for response. I wish to advise that the relevant data to respond to this query was sought from the ICGP.

The Irish College of General Practitioners (ICGP) is the recognised body for the accreditation of specialist training in general practice in Ireland and is recognised by the Medical Council as the representative academic body for the specialty of general practice. Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) and its provision is covered under the General Medical Services (GMS) capitation Agreement. As part of the current Capitation Agreement with General Practitioners GPs can claim special items of service fees for provision of LARC services and are reimbursed for the counselling, insertion and monitoring of LARCs. It is an individual GPs responsibility to ensure competence and maintain competence in any procedure they undertake during their working day.

LARC training and certification of completion of such training is carried out under the auspices of the ICGP.

In September 2022 ICGP the received €75,000 for the development of LARC training and education over a two year period.

In 2023, ICGP will receive approx. €210,000 for completion of year 1 of the development and delivery of training and beginning of the year 2 programme. The expansion of the programme is important in the context of the expansion of free contraction services.

It is also important to note that GP trainees as part of their training programme, also receive LARC certification. In addition, GMS GPs can also claim a contribution towards Locum costs incurred where a locum arrangement is put in place to cover the practice when the GP is attending LARC training.



A total of **37** LARC Certificates issued in 2022 (which consisted of 28 both IUD and Subdermal implants, 6 IUD only and 3 subdermal only). In 2023 to date, **26** LARC Certificates have issued, resulting in a total of **63** LARC Certificates issued to General Practitioners to date.

I trust the foregoing clarifies in this regard.

**Yours sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', with a horizontal line underneath.

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**Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Enhanced Community Care Programme &  
Primary Care Contracts**