



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Pádraig O'Sullivan
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

1st August 2023

PQ 34499/23- To ask the Minister for Health the number of ENT consultants in Dublin; how many patients these consultants currently cover; are their plans to hire additional ENT consultants for Dublin; if so, if a timeframe is in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Pádraig O'Sullivan

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

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.

Information sourced from the Doctor Information Management System, under the remit of the National Doctors Training Programme, states that there are 70 Whole-time Equivalent (WTE) ENT consultants employed across 15 public hospitals.

The HSE's Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) system is a health information system designed to collect medical and administrative data regarding discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. All acute public hospitals participate in HIPE. The National Quality Assurance Information System (NQAIS) draws information from HIPE.

Data from the NQAIS for the ENT and Pediatrics ENT specialties for 2022 shows 33,301 discharges. This data reflects all diagnoses and procedures (including patients that did not have a procedure), all ages, and all admission sources (e.g. elective, emergency).

The level of complexity of procedures is not reflected and could vary from tonsillectomy or excision of a lesion to complex head and neck surgery for cancer.

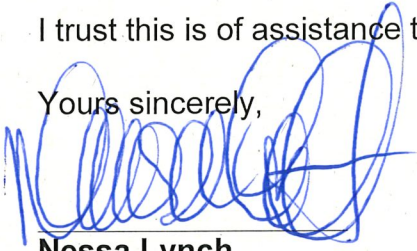
HIPE does not currently collect data for outpatient activity involving ENT Consultants.

The HSE is implementing a number of care pathways aimed at reducing waiting lists, via a multidisciplinary approach which involves the recruitment of additional Audiologists, Physiotherapists, Speech and Language Therapists and Dietitians.

The included Excel file supplied by Acute Operations HR shows WTE Consultant Otolaryngologist staffing by hospital for May 2023.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Nessa Lynch', written over a horizontal line.

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Acute Operations