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PQ29298/23

To ask the Minister for Health to list the hospitals with the National Acute Oncology Nursing Service to assist patients undergoing active cancer treatment in avoiding attending the emergency department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

- Currently the Acute Oncology Nursing service is operational Monday to Friday from **8am – 4pm** in all of the 26 SACT hospital listed below. One specialist nurse was appointed to support each SACT service in 2021.
- There is no dedicated Nurse Specialist in the acute oncology service after these hours, there is no dedicated nurse specialist weekend cover and no annual leave cover when the nurse specialist is off.
- Our aim is to build resilience in this service so that it will be available to all patients nationally 24/7. This will require additional nursing and administrative resources which we are seeking approval for through the National Service Planning process.

National Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) Hospitals

| Type 1 | Type 2 | Type 3 |
|--|--|---|
| CHI at Crumlin (Paediatrics and AYA) | Tallaght University Hospital | University Hospital Kerry |
| Beaumont Hospital | Sligo University Hospital | Portiuncula University Hospital |
| Cork University Hospital | Letterkenny University Hospital | St Luke's Hospital Rathgar |
| University Hospital, Limerick | Midlands Regional Hospital, Tullamore | Mayo University Hospital |
| University Hospital Waterford | Mercy University Hospital | South Tipperary General Hospital |
| St James's Hospital | | Cavan General Hospital |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital | | St Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny |
| St Vincent's University Hospital | | Wexford General Hospital |
| University Hospital Galway | | Naas General Hospital |
| | | Connolly Hospital |
| | | Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda |
| | | South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital |

Yours sincerely,



Terry Hanan
National Clinical Lead Cancer Nursing
National Cancer Control Programme

