



**Stiúrtóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
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Pádraig O'Sullivan T.D.

4th April, 2023

PQ 13328/23 To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied) in relation to clinical audiologists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pádraig O'Sullivan

The only training route currently for Audiology in Ireland is a 2 year full time MSc in UCC. Why are all clinical audiologists in the HSE on at least €10,000 less (both basic grade and senior staff) than HSE speech and language therapists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists in the HSE given the complex nature of the work and the specialised training route? A basic grade speech and language therapist scale goes to 57,000 and a senior audiologist scale goes to 55,000. Why the inequality? The union has not helped audiologists with this issue. <https://www.forsa.ie/health-sector-consolidated-salary-scales/>

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question which was sent to the HSE for response.

HSE are currently engaging with FORSA with regard to union requests to develop new structures and career opportunities for Audiologists. At present similar to other Professions, Audiology has its own structure within the HSE that differs to HSCP Professions referenced.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan
National HR**