



Deputy Róisín Shortall
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

12th June 2023

PQ Ref: 21962/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE Clinical Podiatry Specialists, WTE Senior Podiatrists, and WTE Staff Grade Podiatrists that have been recruited to date to staff the HSE ECC Specialist Ambulatory Care Hubs across the 9 HSE CHOs; the number of each of these grade that have physically taken up posts; the number of each grade that are currently going through the HSE recruitment process; the number of posts that remained unfilled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shortall,

I refer to your parliamentary question, which was passed to the HSE for response.

As outlined in previous correspondence, in line with Sláintecare, the Enhanced Community Care Programme (ECC) objective is to deliver increased levels of health care with service delivery reoriented towards general practice, primary care and community-based services. The focus is on implementing an end-to-end care pathway that will care for people at home and over time prevent referrals and admissions to acute hospitals where it is safe and appropriate to do so, and enable a “home first” approach.

The ECC Programme was allocated €240m for the establishment of 96 CHNs, 30 Community Specialist Teams for Older People, 30 Community Specialist Teams for Chronic Disease, national coverage for Community Intervention Teams and the development of a volunteer-type model in collaboration with ALONE.

In reference to the information requested above, Table 1 below outlines the total number of new Clinical Specialist, Senior and Staff Grade Podiatry posts approved for ECC, along with the number of posts onboarded to date, the number at an advanced stage of recruitment, and the number of roles for which a recruitment campaign is underway.

Table 1 - ECC Podiatry Posts

Grade	Approved ECC Posts	Onboarded to date	Advanced Stage of Recruitment	Recruitment campaign underway
Clinical Podiatry Specialist	33	18.5	1	13.5
Podiatrist, Senior	33	17	0.5	12
Podiatrist, Staff Grade	30	17	1	15.5
Total WTE	96	52.5	2.5	41



The HSE continues to run recruitment campaigns locally and internationally to attract suitably qualified staff.

I hope the above is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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

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