



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
Conarthaí Príomhchúraim  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Urlár 2, Páirc Ghnó Bhóthar na  
Modhfheirme,  
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Deputy Róisín Shortall  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

12th June 2023

***PQ Ref: 21963/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of the planned WTE Clinical Podiatry Specialists and WTE Senior Podiatrists posts for HSE Acute Hospital Diabetes Services that have physically taken up posts; the number of each grade that are currently going through the HSE recruitment process; where these posts are based; the number of these planned posts that remain 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.

You will note in response to the previous PQ you submitted (PQ 21962/23) regarding the number Podiatry Grades in HSE ECC Specialist Ambulatory Care Hubs, there are 96 new additional Podiatry WTE allocated, this is in addition to the existing resources in the Community and Acute services. Of the above 96 WTE Podiatry grades, there are 7 WTE new additional Podiatry Posts Diabetes, resourced through the ECC programme, based in acute services.

Table 1 below provides a breakdown of locations and recruitment status



**Table 1: Acute Podiatry WTE Status and Location**

Status / Role	WTE	Hospital Location
<b>Onboarded</b>		
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist	1	Sligo University Hospital
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist	1	Connolly Hospital
<b>At Advanced Stage of Recruitment</b>		
Chiropodist/ Podiatrist, Senior	0.5	South Tipperary
<b>Campaign Underway</b>		
Chiropodist / Podiatrist, Senior	0.5	Letterkenny University Hospital
Chiropodist / Podiatrist, Senior	1	0.5 Mayo University Hospital 0.5 Portiuncula Hospital
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist	1	MRH Portlaoise
Chiropodist/ Podiatrist Staff Grade	2	1 MRH Tullamore 1 Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	

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,**

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