

**General Manager's Office  
Sligo University Hospital  
The Mall  
Sligo  
F91 H684  
Tel: (071) 91-74511  
Fax: (071)91-74648**

**Thomas Pringle TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2**

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**PQ 24818 / 23 Ophthalmic Services**

Dear Deputy Pringle,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Public Representation. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

**Response:**

The Ophthalmic Service for the North West is based in Sligo University Hospital. This is where the consultants are based, and where the vast majority of clinics, diagnostic procedures and treatments take place. All patients needing treatment for wet Macular degeneration from the Northwest catchment area (Sligo, Donegal and Leitrim) attend the tertiary referral ophthalmic service at Sligo University Hospital. There are in addition patients attending from parts of counties Cavan, Longford, Mayo and Roscommon.

Other hospitals providing similar services include University Hospital Galway, Mater University Hospital or Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital. There are outreach monthly clinics provided at St Conal's Hospital by the Sligo based consultants, however retinal imaging fluorescein angiography, medical retina clinics and intravitreal therapy for AMD patients is not available in LUH. The intravitreal injection pilot project for patients with diabetic retinopathy has proven very successful, but is limited to a very specific cohort of patients.

I trust that this addresses your query.

**Yours sincerely,**



---

**Grainne McCann,  
Hospital Manager.**

***Mission Statement***

*Sligo University Hospital is committed to the delivery of a high quality, patient centred service in a safe, equitable and efficient manner. We recognise and value the contribution of each staff member and endeavour to support them in their ongoing development.*