



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí

Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas,
An Bóthar Míleata, Cill Mhaighneann, Baile
Átha Cliath 8, D08 NN9V

Office of the National Director
Acute Operations

Unit 4a, the Dargan Building, Heuston
South Quarter, Military Road,
Kilmainham, Dublin 8, D08 NN9V

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 01 795 9972
e acutehospitals@hse.ie

Deputy Ivana Bacik
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

15th June 2023

PQ 25595/23 – To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the severe shortage of medical scientists working in acute hospitals; if he is aware of the impact this is having on patients nationwide; what he and his Department are doing to rectify the situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 25599/23 – To ask the Minister for Health his views on the shortage of medical scientists working in acute hospitals; his plans to rectify the shortage; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Bacik,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is aware of the significant recruitment difficulties associated with the recruitment of Medical Scientists and the impact this recruitment shortage currently has across laboratory services.

The HSE is working in close collaboration with the Department of Health and the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to advance further training places for Medical Scientists.

In respect of this, discussions are advancing with two Higher Education Institutes to put in place additional training places for both undergraduate and post graduate training opportunities for Medical Scientists. It is important that these training places will be in line with CORU related requirements and this work is also underway.

In addition, the HSE is also advancing initiatives to further enhance the recruitment of suitably qualified Medical Scientists both nationally and internationally.

The HSE will continue to work in collaboration with a range of stakeholders to address the shortage of available Medical Scientists.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Ciaran Browne
Acute Operations - HSE