

**General Manager's Office  
University Hospital Galway  
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Galway  
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5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

REF: PQ41879/23

RE: The Portiuncula is a Grade 3 hospital and will ask for support from Galway University Hospital, a Grade 4 hospital, for more complex cancer cases, however, Portiuncula does not have a representative radiologist at the weekly Multi-Disciplinary Meetings in GUH to present these cases, hence more complex cancers are not necessarily guaranteed to have their cases heard in a timely manner, can the Minister confirm how cases will be decided and whether a lottery system will be used?"

Dear Deputy Farrell,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above.

In response to your query we can confirm that a Consultant Radiologist from Portiuncula University Hospital is participating in the Oncology MDT for the last 6 weeks. Previous to this, there was a significant number of vacancies in the Radiology Department at Portiuncula at Consultant level due to unplanned and unforeseen leave and as a result there was no Consultant Radiologist available for this MDT. There were other participants from Portiuncula at these MDT meetings at both Consultant and Nursing staff level.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Kane  
General Manager  
Galway University Hospitals