

Róisín Shortall TD
Social Democrats
Leinster House
Kildare Street
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6th March 2023

Re.

PQ 9229/24

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of prostate cancer on a national basis after referral to the prostate rapid access clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023 in tabular form.

PQ 9230/24

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of lung cancer on a national basis after referral to the lung rapid access clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form.

PQ 9231/24

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of breast cancer on a national basis after referral to the "urgent" symptomatic breast disease clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form.

PQ 9232/24

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of breast cancer on a national basis after referral to the "non-urgent" symptomatic breast disease clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) collates a small subset of aggregate data related to specific tumours and are mostly associated with the monitoring of rapid access cancer assessment services in adults.

The rapid access assessment services for Symptomatic Breast Disease (SBD) Clinics, Rapid Access Lung Clinics (RALC) and Rapid Access Prostate Clinics (RAPC) operate in each of the 8 designated cancer centres with one additional breast satellite clinic. It is important to note that these are symptomatic patients being assessed for suspected cancer, the majority of whom will not be diagnosed with cancer.

The total number of patients who received a diagnosis of primary prostate cancer, primary lung cancer and primary breast cancer triaged as urgent and non-urgent, are presented nationally by year and quarter in Table 1, Table 2, Table 3 and Table 4 respectively.

Table 1: The total number of new patients attending a rapid access prostate clinic who received a diagnosis of primary prostate cancer nationally

Year	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016	1,043	247	306	245	245
2017	1,230	320	308	290	312
2018	1,256	295	297	318	346
2019	1,489	369	403	371	346
2020	1,114	310	220	266	318
2021	1,156	254	301	304	297
2022	1,366	369	332	335	330
2023*	1,208	340	295	294	279

Table 2: The total number of patients attending a rapid access lung clinic who received a diagnosis of primary lung cancer nationally

Year	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016	1,085	257	273	275	280
2017	1,154	296	309	297	252
2018	1,124	294	287	256	287
2019	1,183	267	317	300	299
2020	1,128	322	245	271	290
2021	1,143	294	258	302	289
2022	1,254	288	331	328	307
2023*	1,262	270	298	349	345

Table 3: The total number of new patients triaged as urgent, attending a symptomatic breast disease clinic who received a diagnosis of primary breast cancer nationally

Year	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016	1,849	416	486	480	467
2017	1,912	525	484	457	446
2018	1,890	482	451	458	499
2019	1,946	484	482	504	476
2020	1,982	481	459	532	510
2021	2,141	520	540	557	524
2022	2,119	483	529	556	551
2023*	2,069	514	500	557	498

Table 4: The total number of new patients triaged as non-urgent, attending a symptomatic breast disease clinic who received a diagnosis of primary breast cancer nationally

Year	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016	227	58	52	69	48
2017	188	49	40	55	44
2018	207	46	54	64	43
2019	176	32	51	39	54
2020	162	36	29	49	48
2021	177	48	46	34	49
2022	205	46	65	47	47
2023*	233	60	55	49	69

* Please note that the cancer centres are have not yet validated their data for 2023 and as such some cancers that are yet to be notified may not have been included in the table above. Data is correct as of 27th February 2024.

Yours sincerely,



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