



29/07/2024

Deputy Duncan Smith  
Dáil Éireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

PQ Number: PQ Ref: 32886/24

**Question: "To ask the Minister for Health the number of unfilled consultant positions respectively that currently remain unfilled for each hospital, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Duncan Smith".**

Dear Deputy Smith,

The data below was extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024. DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites. As DIME is a live system it must be noted that there can be variances in the figures published dependent on the run date of the report as entries can be made with a retrospective date.

Data below is based on the number of unfilled (Vacant) Consultant posts per principal clinical site:

**Table 1: Summary of Vacant CAAC Approved Consultant Posts (includes unknown status and future starters assigned and the total number of newly created posts that are vacant within the last 12 months)**

<b>Total number of CAAC approved posts vacant</b>		<b>352</b>
<i>Of the total number of vacant posts:</i>		
No of posts with an unknown status		7
Number of newly created posts in the last 12 months which are vacant (recruitment is either underway or about to commence)		147

**Table 2: Breakdown of Vacant CAAC Approved Consultant Posts by Hospital Group/CHO and Principal Clinical Site**

Hospital group/CHO	Principal Clinical Site	Vacant	Unknown Status	Total Vacant
BreastCheck	Breastcheck - Eccles Unit	2	0	2
	Breastcheck - Merrion Unit	2	0	2
	Breastcheck - Southern Unit	3	0	3
	Breastcheck - Western Unit	3	0	3
<b>BreastCheck Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>

<b>Children's Health Ireland</b>	CHI at Crumlin	21	0	21
	CHI at Tallaght	4	0	4
	CHI at Temple St	11	0	11
	Childrens Hospital Group	6	0	6
<b>Children's Health Ireland Total</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>CHO 1</b>	MHS Donegal	1	0	1
	MHS Sligo / Leitrim	1	0	1
	Older Persons Services Cavan / Monaghan	1	0	1
	Older Persons Services Sligo / Leitrim	1	0	1
<b>CHO 1 Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CHO 2</b>	CAMHS Galway Roscommon Mayo	2	0	2
	CHO 2	2	0	2
	MHS Galway / Roscommon	3	0	3
	MHS Mayo	1	0	1
<b>CHO 2 Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>CHO 3</b>	CHO 3	2	0	2
	MHS Clare	1	0	1
	MHS Limerick	2	0	2
	MHS Tipperary North	3	0	3
<b>CHO 3 Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>CHO 4</b>	CAMHS Cork	1	0	1
	CHO 4	1	0	1
	MHS Cork North Lee	1	0	1
	MHS Cork South Lee	3	0	3
	MHS Kerry	2	0	2
<b>CHO 4 Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>CHO 5</b>	MHS Wexford	1	0	1
<b>CHO 5 Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CHO 6</b>	MHS Dublin South East	1	0	1
	National Virus Reference Laboratory	0	1	1
<b>CHO 6 Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CHO 7</b>	CAMHS Linn Dara	3	0	3
	CHO 7	1	0	1
	MHS Dublin South Central	1	1	2
<b>CHO 7 Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CHO 9</b>	CAMHS Dublin North City	1	0	1
	HSE Addiction Service DNCC	1	0	1
	Incorporated Orthopaedic Hospital	1	0	1
	MHS Dublin North	2	0	2
	MHS Dublin North City	3	0	3
<b>CHO 9 Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Corporate</b>	HSE Corporate - National Public Health	6	1	7

	HSE Corporate, National Health Protection	1	0	1
	National Public Health	12	0	12
	Public Health Area A	1	0	1
	Public Health Area B	2	0	2
	Public Health Area C	2	0	2
	Public Health Area D	3	0	3
	Public Health Area E	1	0	1
<b>Corporate Total</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group</b>	Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital	2	0	2
	Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise	7	0	7
	Midlands Regional Hospital, Tullamore	4	0	4
	Naas General Hospital	2	0	2
	St James's Hospital	8	0	8
	Tallaght University Hospital	21	0	21
<b>Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group Total</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Ireland East Hospitals Group</b>	Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital	1	0	1
	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	11	0	11
	Midlands Regional Hospital, Mullingar	3	1	4
	National Maternity Hospital	3	0	3
	National Rehabilitation Hospital	1	0	1
	Our Lady's Hospital, Navan	2	0	2
	Royal Victoria Eye & Ear Hospital	2	0	2
	St Vincent's University Hospital	9	0	9
	Wexford General Hospital	8	0	8
<b>Ireland East Hospitals Group Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	Central Mental Hospital, Portrane	4	0	4
<b>Mental Health Services Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>RCSI Hospitals Group</b>	Beaumont Hospital	5	0	5
	Cavan General Hospital	5	0	5
	Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown	5	0	5
	Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda	7	0	7
	Rotunda Hospital	2	0	2
<b>RCSI Hospitals Group Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Saolta Hospitals Group</b>	Letterkenny University Hospital	4	0	4
	Mayo University Hospital	3	0	3
	Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe	2	0	2
	Roscommon University Hospital	1	0	1
	Sligo University Hospital	3	0	3

	University Hospital Galway	30	1	31
<b>Saolta Hospitals Group Total</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>South / South West Hospitals Group</b>	Ballincollig Primary Care Centre	1	0	1
	Bantry General Hospital	4	0	4
	Cork University Hospital	20	0	20
	Mercy University Hospital	9	0	9
	South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital	3	0	3
	Tipperary University Hospital (TippUH)	4	0	4
	University Hospital Kerry	8	0	8
	University Hospital Waterford	10	1	11
<b>South / South West Hospitals Group Total</b>		<b>59</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>University of Limerick Hospitals Group</b>	St John's Hospital, Limerick	1	0	1
	UL	1	0	1
	University Hospital Limerick	3	1	4
	University of Limerick Hospitals Group	3	0	3
<b>University of Limerick Hospitals Group Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>352</b>

**Table 3: Definition of Status**

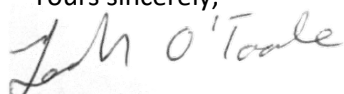
**Approved:** The post has been approved through the Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) process.

**Vacant:** Recruitment for the post may be underway but the clinical site has verified on DIME that this is currently a vacant post. An appointment may have been made to a number of these vacancies with a prospective start date. It should be noted that there is often a significant period of time between approval of a consultant post through CAAC to the commencement of the recruitment process and ultimately the recruitment of a Consultant to a post.  
The vacancy figure includes a combination of posts that have previously been filled but have become vacant and posts that have never been filled.

**Vacant - Future start date:** Recruitment has concluded and a successful candidate has been appointed with their agreed start date in the future.

**Unknown status:** The clinical site has not yet assigned a Consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant.

Yours sincerely,



Leah O'Toole  
Assistant National Director