

CC/TP/MC

Email: pqmidwestacute@hse.ie

14th March 2024

Mr Thomas Pringle TD
Dàil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 10086/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who attended a lung rapid access clinic and the number who were offered an appointment in each of the relevant hospitals managed by University of Limerick Hospital Group within ten working days of the date of receipt of a letter of referral from the cancer office, in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Pringle,

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

University Hospital Limerick is one of eight Rapid Access Lung Clinics in Ireland that provides diagnosis and staging for patients with lung cancer and suspected lung cancer.

The Rapid Access Lung Clinic in University Hospital Limerick is a consultant led assessment and diagnostic service for patients with suspected lung disease or cancer.

Lung cancer accounts for approximately 13% of male and 10% of female cancers diagnosed in Ireland each year. Early access to specialist clinics for diagnosis of lung cancer is imperative to improving patient outcomes.

UL Hospitals Group is committed to providing care for lung cancer patients in the Mid-West and we continue to strive to improve our services to ensure that our patients have the best possible outcomes.

As requested, please find attached data in tabular form for the years requested. As you can see, there has been an increase in the number of patients that attended our clinics and an increase in the number of patients that received an appointment within ten working days of referral.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.



Professor Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group



UL Hospitals Group

The number of patients that attended a Lung RAC within reporting calendar month; of those (TOTAL No of Patients seen)
 The number of patients that attended or received an appointment to attend Lung RAC within 10 working days of receipt of referral in the cancer centre

	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021				2022				2023			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
	124	142	159	123	142	142	144	144	144	144	158	154	147	166	180	189	155	147	175	180	147	216	229	150	194	196	193	171	154	157	121	
	74	83	89	62	85	85	76	76	76	85	95	89	90	108	102	77	73	105	129	140	102	131	160	96	147	141	110	88	117	102		