

CC/JG/MC

 Email: [pqmidwestacute@hse.ie](mailto:pqmidwestacute@hse.ie)

 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

 Mr Johnny Guirke TD  
 Dàil Eireann,  
 Leinster House,  
 Kildare Street,  
 Dublin 2

PQ 10470/24, PQ 10483/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of people triaged as urgent who attended a symptomatic breast disease clinic and the number who were offered an appointment in each of the relevant hospitals managed by University of Limerick Hospital Group within 10 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.

To ask the Minister for Health the number of people triaged as non-urgent who attended a symptomatic breast disease clinic the number who were offered an appointment in each of the relevant hospitals managed by University of Limerick Hospital Group within 12 weeks of the date of receipt of a letter of referral in the cancer office in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Guirke,

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.


Please see below data in relation to the number of patients triaged as urgent who attended the symptomatic breast clinic at University Hospital Limerick and the number of patients who were offered an appointment within ten working days for the years requested:

| Year          | Q1                    |                                | Q2                    |                                | Q3                    |                                | Q4                    |                                |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
|               | No. triaged as urgent | No. offered apt within 10 days | No. triaged as urgent | No. offered apt within 10 days | No. triaged as urgent | No. offered apt within 10 days | No. triaged as urgent | No. offered apt within 10 days |
| 2016          | 383                   | 377                            | 367                   | 360                            | 361                   | 358                            | 425                   | 416                            |
| 2017          | 449                   | 449                            | 411                   | 411                            | 401                   | 401                            | 403                   | 403                            |
| 2018          | 403                   | 403                            | 479                   | 474                            | 406                   | 405                            | 477                   | 477                            |
| 2019          | 464                   | 446                            | 438                   | 404                            | 399                   | 377                            | 425                   | 399                            |
| 2020          | 366                   | 322                            | 565                   | 472                            | 496                   | 467                            | 569                   | 520                            |
| 2021          | 542                   | 542                            | 563                   | 411                            | 647                   | 172                            | 705                   | 633                            |
| 2022          | 717                   | 641                            | 635                   | 485                            | 613                   | 142                            | 715                   | 624                            |
| 2023          | 811                   | 804                            | 731                   | 691                            | 768                   | 741                            | 735                   | 722                            |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>4135</b>           | <b>3984</b>                    | <b>4189</b>           | <b>3708</b>                    | <b>4091</b>           | <b>3063</b>                    | <b>4454</b>           | <b>4194</b>                    |

In addition, please see below data in relation to the number of patients triaged as non-urgent who attended the symptomatic breast clinic at University Hospital Limerick and the number of patients who were offered an appointment within 12 weeks of their referral for the years requested:

| Year          | Q1                        |                                 | Q2                        |                                 | Q3                        |                                 | Q4                        |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
|               | No. triaged as non-urgent | No. offered apt within 12 weeks | No. triaged as non-urgent | No. offered apt within 12 weeks | No. triaged as non-urgent | No. offered apt within 12 weeks | No. triaged as non-urgent | No. offered apt within 12 weeks |
| <b>2016</b>   | 432                       | 356                             | 751                       | 717                             | 441                       | 389                             | 504                       | 347                             |
| <b>2017</b>   | 627                       | 607                             | 496                       | 489                             | 492                       | 491                             | 422                       | 421                             |
| <b>2018</b>   | 429                       | 352                             | 633                       | 526                             | 613                       | 612                             | 627                       | 625                             |
| <b>2019</b>   | 362                       | 276                             | 693                       | 447                             | 353                       | 129                             | 570                       | 231                             |
| <b>2020</b>   | 374                       | 49                              | 180                       | 11                              | 638                       | 214                             | 154                       | 34                              |
| <b>2021</b>   | 125                       | 17                              | 470                       | 48                              | 700                       | 133                             | 136                       | 28                              |
| <b>2022</b>   | 362                       | 25                              | 621                       | 59                              | 270                       | 41                              | 401                       | 328                             |
| <b>2023</b>   | 339                       | 336                             | 273                       | 273                             | 264                       | 263                             | 307                       | 203                             |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>3050</b>               | <b>2018</b>                     | <b>4117</b>               | <b>2570</b>                     | <b>3771</b>               | <b>2272</b>                     | <b>3121</b>               | <b>2217</b>                     |

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



**Professor Colette Cowan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**UL Hospitals Group**