

By email to [brid.smith@oireachtas.ie](mailto:brid.smith@oireachtas.ie)

19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Ms. Bríd Smith T.D,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: Parliamentary Question 13297/24** *“To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that there are currently very long delays in obtaining an appointment for a blood test at the Mater Hospital, with reports of nine weeks to be seen by a phlebotomist; his plans to address these delays, given the importance of blood tests in early health interventions; the reason for the delays; the timeframe for their significant reduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Smith,

The RCSI Hospital Group 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. Having reviewed the matter, the following outlines the position.

The Mater Hospital current wait times for routine GP phlebotomy appointments are currently within the average timeframes (approx. 5-6 weeks).

To note, all GPs have access to urgent appointment slots which they can avail of daily.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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June Molloy  
Communications Manager  
RCSI Hospital Group