



Príomhoifigeach Cliniciúil
Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

Ospidéal Dr Steevens, Lána Steevens
Baile Átha Cliath 8 , D08 W2A8

Chief Clinical Officer
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer

Dr Steevens Hospital, Steevens Lane
Dublin 8, D08 W2A8

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 01 635 2000
e cco@hse.ie

BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Joe Cooney
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Email: joe.cooney@oireachtas.ie;

23rd July 2025

Re: - PQ37338/25 - To ask the Minister for Health if safe staffing levels exist in each emergency department; and if she will make a statement on the matter - Joe Cooney

Dear Deputy Cooney,

Thank you for your representation.

Emergency departments are multidisciplinary services comprising medical, nursing, healthcare assistants, allied health, administrative, and support staff. In relation to nursing and health care assistant staffing specifically, the Framework for Safe Nurse Staffing and Skill Mix in Adult Emergency Care Settings (Phase II) is designed to systematically identify the optimal nurse and health care assistant staffing levels, tailored to patients' acuity and dependency needs.

This evidence-based approach ensures that staffing aligns closely with the complexity and demands of patient care, promoting both safety and quality outcomes. Comprehensive assessments utilizing the framework's methodology have been undertaken in all 26 adult emergency departments. To date, 19 adult emergency departments have achieved baseline implementation, reflecting considerable progress towards meeting the framework's requirements. With ongoing recruitment initiatives underway, it is anticipated that the number of departments reaching baseline implementation will continue to grow.

I hope this provides you with some assistance.

Yours sincerely

John F Scott
General Manager
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer