



Príomhoifigeach Cliniciúil
Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Pádraig Rice
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

18th June 2025

PQ29062/25- To ask the Minister for Health the number of clinical directors employed by the health service; the details of their location and number of consultants which they are required to oversee in each case; the reporting arrangements in place to oversee the work of the directors; and if she will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Rice,

Thank you for your representation. The Clinical Director (CD) role was defined in an appendix to the 2008 Consultant contract and it is defined as having a very broad responsibility.

Over the years, clinical directorate structures have evolved differently depending on regional area, hospital groups, specific hospitals and mental health governance with varying titles including chief CD, executive CD, hospital CD, disciplines (medicine, surgery etc) CD, associate CD, clinical lead and others. In addition mental health CDs have specific statutory roles under the 2001 Mental Health Act.

With the establishments of the new health regions and the appointment of Regional Clinical Directors, the HSE is currently carrying out a piece of work to establish the current census for CDs which is due for completion in the over the coming weeks which we would be happy to provide an update to you once this work is completed. In the interim the census as of the 3rd of October from the clinical director programme has been provided for your information.

I hope this provides you with some assistance.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer



Appendix 1

Clinical Director Census 3rd of October 2024 – CD Programme

This information and detail is being currently updated

Mental Health Services

There are 17 Executive Clinical Directors

Clinical Directors: 31

Total: 48 (circa 0.5 wte)

Acute Hospitals

Chief Clinical Directors: 8 across the regions

Clinical Directors: 74 Clinical Directors

This includes National Ambulance Service

TOTAL: 130 (circa 0.5 wte)