

**General Manager's Office**  
**University Hospital Galway**  
**Newcastle Road**  
**Galway**  
**Tel: (091) 544200**

10<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

REF: PQ 34146/25

RE: To ask the Minister for Health to provide details on the services currently provided for adult patients with epilepsy at a hospital (details supplied); the number and grade of staff that are currently attached to this service at this site; the number of staff vacancies within this service; the number of epilepsy patients currently registered with this service; the number of patients currently awaiting first consultations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Catherine Connolly

Dear Deputy Connolly,

The HSE has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above.

In response to your query, we can provide the following information:

Patients with epilepsy attend the Neurology Outpatient Department at Galway University Hospital.

GUH staffing attached to the service is as follows: 1 Consultant Neurologist, 2 Clinical Nurse Specialists and currently 1 Neurophysiologist (technician) in post - there is 1 Neurophysiologist post vacant since 2023 which has not been replaced. We are seeking approval to fill this post.

Currently there are two epilepsy clinics per week, catering for new patients (average 8) and reviews (average 25). In addition, patients with Vagus Nerve Stimulators for intractable epilepsy are seen on a frequent basis (30 patients, approximately every two months) – many of the review patients will be seen more than once.

Overall the service sees approximately 400 new patients per year and approximately 1000 patients are under active review. There are approximately 150 patients waiting to be seen for their first consultation at the epilepsy clinic with a further 100 plus patients referred for investigation of unexplained loss of awareness that could potentially be epilepsy.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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Chris Kane

General Manager  
Galway University Hospitals