

By email to: marie.sherlock@oireachtas.ie

10th July 2025

Ms. Marie Sherlock T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question 34497/25 “To ask the Minister for Health to provide details on the services currently provided for adult patients with epilepsy at Mater University Hospital; the number and grade of staff that are currently attached to this service at this site; the number of current 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.”

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

HSE Dublin and North East 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 Misericordiae University Hospital (MMUH) does not provide a standalone, dedicated epilepsy service. Instead, adult patients with epilepsy are seen within the broader general neurology service.

Currently, five Consultant Neurologists provide care to patients with epilepsy as part of their general neurology clinics. While one of these consultants has a specialist interest in epilepsy and conducts a dedicated outpatient clinic once per week, it is not possible to disaggregate their whole-time equivalent (WTE) input specifically allocated to epilepsy care.

Please see current staffing figures as follows:

- 5 Consultant Neurologists (general neurology, including epilepsy care)
- 1 Advanced Nurse Practitioner (dedicated to epilepsy)
- 1 Candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioner (dedicated to epilepsy)

The Neurology Waiting List at MMUH does not provide condition-specific data; therefore, it is not possible to determine the number of epilepsy patients currently registered or awaiting their first consultation separately from other neurology referrals.

As of 18 June 2025, there are 3,392 patients awaiting a first appointment with the MMUH Neurology Service. This figure includes all neurology referrals, including but not specifically limited to epilepsy cases.



I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

June Molloy
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