

By email to: colm.burke@oireachtas.ie

31st July 2025

Mr. Colm Burke T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question 34700/25 *“To ask the Minister for Health if she will work with the HSE to provide additional funding and resources that are required for the pulmonary arterial hypertension unit in the Mater Hospital (details supplied) given the unit has not had any additional resources since 2003; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Details Supplied: The service needs a designated pharmacist, an additional nurse and registry manager”*

Dear Deputy Burke,

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 Pulmonary Hypertension Unit was established at the Mater Hospital in 2003, initially supported through the Lung Transplant initiative. It was formally designated and opened as the National Pulmonary Hypertension Unit by President Mary McAlesse in 2007 (<https://www.president.ie/en/media-library/speeches/remarks-by-president-mcaleese-at-the-official-opening-of-the-national-pulmo>).

Since its inception, the unit has continued to evolve to meet the increasing needs of patients with this complex. The demand for assessment and initiation of treatments remains high, reflecting the critical role of the unit as Ireland’s national centre for pulmonary hypertension.

In response to the increasing number of patients and the development of new therapies, the Unit plans to recruit an additional pharmacist and a nurse specialist.

Additionally, establishing a formal registry pulmonary hypertension with administrative support is a top priority for the future. The Unit is optimistic about obtaining funding for this initiative through the Rare Disease Network.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Dunne
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Cumarsáide agus Gnóthaí Poiblí
FSS Bhaile Átha Cliath agus an Oirthuaiscirt

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