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Clinical Design & Innovation, Office of the Chief Clinical Officer Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8 E: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

20 May 2025

Deputy Frankie Feighan, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

RE: PQ 22730/25

To ask the Minister for Health her plans to increase the number of specialist neurology nurses; when they will be recruited; where they will be based; and if she will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Feighan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Neurology (NCPN) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The National Clinical Programme for Neurology (NCPN) Model of Care¹ by design weighs heavily on nursing workforce to respond to the chronicity of neurological conditions and navigate patients through primary, secondary and tertiary care for optimal patient outcomes. A key focus is on building capacity within neurology clinics and developing nursing networks with nurse-led outpatient and outreach clinics. These principles align with the strategic objectives set out by the Department of Health (DoH) Policy on Graduate, Specialist and Advanced Nursing Practice².

Funding was allocated for new service developments of neurology services in 2025, including 22 new nursing posts to support neurology services in the locations outlined below. It is envisaged that these posts will be advertised in Q2-Q3 2025.

Neurology Sub initiative 2025	Location	Grade	WTE
Neurology Clinical	Letterkenny University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
Nurse Specialist (CNS)	Mayo University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	MRH Portlaoise	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	Our Lady of Lourdes	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	UH Kerry	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	Wexford General	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
Headache Clinic	Tallaght University	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
	UH Limerick	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
	Sligo University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
Movement disorders/Parkinson's disease	Mater Misericordiae University	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
	St. Vincent's University	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
	Tallaght University	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
	Beaumont	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	Cork University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	Galway University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
	UH Waterford	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
Epilepsy	St. Vincent's University	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
	UH Waterford	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1
Other			







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Neurogenetics	Mater Misericordiae University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
Neuromuscular	Beaumont	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
Rare Neurological Diseases	Tallaght University	Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	1
•	Galway University	Advanced Nurse Practitioner (General)	1

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Anne Horgan **General Manager**

References

- 1. https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/clinical-strategy-and- programmes/neurology-model-of-care.pdf
- 2. https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/a-policy-on-the-development-of-graduate-toadvanced-nursing-and-midwife-practice.pdf