

**Príomhoifigeach Daoine**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
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Mr. Paul Donnelly, TD

30 May 2025

PQ 26074/25 (Health) – To ask the Minister for Health if there is an embargo on hiring radiotherapists with Working experience for the HSE; the reasoning for such an embargo; and if she will make a statement on the matter. - Paul Donnelly

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question which was sent to the HSE for response.

In the past 5 years, the HSE workforce has grown from 119,818 WTE on January 01st 2020 to 149,045 WTE in April 2025, an increase of 24%.

Whilst there is no specific grade of Radiotherapist, there has been an increase in the staff category of Radiography from 1229 WTE to 1575 WTE and for Radiation Therapists from 199 WTE to 221 WTE.

The HSE is actively recruiting for both Radiographers and Radiation Therapists on an ongoing basis. There has been specific targeted campaigns on the HSE Career Hub for these grades. The purpose of these marketing initiatives is to increase the candidate pool and interest in these services, examples of which are <https://careerhub.hse.ie/radiation-therapist> and <https://careerhub.hse.ie/breastcheck>

The HSE has also issued a mandate in March 2025 to all services to support the recruitment of Irish trained graduates from the class of 2025. This instruction named 10 HSCP professions of which Radiation Therapists and Radiographers were included. The HSE is very anxious to ensure maximum retention of our home-grown talent.

There is no embargo on recruitment in the HSE however the HSE is obliged to operate within its funding envelope and WTE limits as outlined in the Pay and Number Strategy.

I trust this is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Mairéad Ryan
National HR