



George Lawlor TD  
Labour Party  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

email: [georgelawlor@oireachtas.ie](mailto:georgelawlor@oireachtas.ie)

22.05.2025

**PQ 27472**

**To ask the Minister for Health to list the hospitals with the national acute oncology nursing service to assist patients undergoing active cancer treatment in avoiding attending emergency departments; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Lawlor

- Currently the Acute Haematology Oncology Nursing service (**AHOS**) is operational Monday to Friday from **8am – 4pm** in 23 out of 26 SACT hospitals listed below. St Luke's Rathgar, Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown and the South Infirmary Cork are endeavouring to recruit replacement nurse specialist to their services.
- There is no dedicated Nurse Specialist in AHOS after these hours, there is no dedicated nurse specialist weekend cover and no annual leave cover when the nurse specialist is off.
- Our aim is to build resilience in the AHOS so that it will be available to all patients nationally 24/7. This will require additional nursing and administrative resources which we are seeking approval for through the National Service Planning process.



# National Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) Hospitals

Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
CHI at Crumlin (Paediatrics and AYA)	Tallaght University Hospital	University Hospital Kerry
Beaumont Hospital	Sligo University Hospital	Portiuncula University Hospital
Cork University Hospital	Letterkenny University Hospital	St Luke's Hospital Rathgar
University Hospital, Limerick	Midlands Regional Hospital, Tullamore	Mayo University Hospital
University Hospital Waterford	Mercy University Hospital	South Tipperary General Hospital
St James's Hospital		Cavan General Hospital
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital		St Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny
St Vincent's University Hospital		Wexford General Hospital
University Hospital Galway		Naas General Hospital
		Connolly Hospital
		Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda
		South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital

Yours sincerely,

Terry Hanan  
National Clinical Lead Cancer Nursing  
National Cancer Control Programme