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South Infirmary - Victoria University Hospital Ollscoil Ospidéal Otharlann an Deiscirt-Victoria

A Teaching Hospital of University College, Cork.

14th October 2025

Ken O'Flynn TD

Re: Question No 51154/25

*** To ask the Minister for Health the number of cataract surgeries carried out in Cork hospitals in 2024; the average waiting time for surgery; and the number of patients currently awaiting procedures in 2025**

Dear Deputy O'Flynn,

The Health Service Executive 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.

We have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Cataract Surgeries Carried out in SIVUH in 2024

Year	No. of Cataract Surgeries
2024	1870

Average Wait Time for Cataract Surgery

4 months (98% patients are waiting up to 6 months)

Number of Patients awaiting Cataract Surgery Procedure Date as at 1/10/2025

0 – 3 Mths	3 – 6 Mths	6 – 9 Mths	9 – 12 Mths
219	68	1 <i>Procedure date 29 Sep cancelled by pt > to be rescheduled</i>	1 <i>Rt cataract done in Sept > Lt cataract is being scheduled</i>

Please note that a patient is only placed on a Cataract waiting list for surgery once they have been seen in the Ophthalmology outpatient department. A patient would initially be placed on an Ophthalmology outpatient waiting list which would not be specific to Cataracts. This is a separate waiting list.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Helen Donovan
Chief Executive Officer