

CC/WOD/MC

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie03rd March 2022Ms Willie O'Dea TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 11086/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital admissions that occurred through University of Limerick Hospitals Group accident and emergency or the acute medical assessment unit due to diabetic ketoacidosis in persons with pre-existing diabetes; the number of admissions that were due to diabetic ketoacidosis in persons who were diagnosed with diabetes after admission in each of the years 2017 to 2021, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Willie O'Dea

Dear Deputy O'Dea

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Please see below data in relation to your question regarding the number of hospital admissions through our ED and medical assessment units that were due to diabetic ketoacidosis. Unfortunately, it is not possible to outline the number of patients admitted with pre-existing diabetes or persons diagnosed with diabetes on or during admission.

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
Total Admissions	70	96	51	66	283

UL Hospitals Group recognises the need for additional resources within our adult diabetic services. This issue is a core focus for UL Hospitals Group and we are committed to improving this service for our patients.

UL Hospitals Group has made positive progress recently in recruiting staff for our adult diabetic services. A second consultant endocrinologist took up post on the 1st October 2020. In addition, two further consultant endocrinology posts have been approved for University Hospital Limerick. These posts have been advertised and the closing date for applications has now passed. Interviews have taken place for these positions.

In December 2020, UL Hospitals Group received funding to recruit three additional dietetic posts for the treatment of adult diabetes. This funding was made available through the national clinical programme for diabetes. These posts include two senior dieticians and one staff grade dietician. These posts have now been filled.



The Adult Diabetes Service is also supported by a dedicated team of Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) and Staff Nurses. Four Diabetic CNS posts have been approved for University Hospital Limerick. Following recruitment campaigns, all four Clinical Nurse Specialists are now in place.

There are also three Diabetic Staff Nurse positions within the Diabetes Unit at UHL, two of these positions have been filled, the recruitment process is currently ongoing to fill the final post.

Developing our diabetes services is a core focus for UL Hospitals Group and we are committed to improving this service for our patients.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group