



17/12/2019

Deputy Stephen Donnelly
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 50890/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in each LHO area waiting for a podiatry appointment in primary care at the end of November 2019 or the latest date available; and the number waiting 0 to 12, 12 to 26, 26 to 52 and more than 52 weeks, respectively in tabular form

-Stephen Donnelly

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Podiatry is one of a range of multi-disciplinary services provided through Primary Care in Community Healthcare Organisations. Podiatrists provide assessment, diagnosis and intervention programmes for people with lower-limb and foot-related problems. Access to podiatry is an important element of community based care for frail older people and people with chronic health conditions.

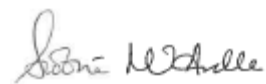
Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting list for Podiatry in community services as of October 2019. Please note that November waiting list data as requested will not be generated until the end of December.

The zeroes in many of the fields in the attached waiting list for Podiatry is reflective of the low level of demand for Podiatry services from this age cohort which results in low numbers on or no waiting lists in many areas. Our data shows that the vast majority of demand for Podiatry services is from older age cohorts particularly from patients aged 65 years and older.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality podiatry services to all eligible service users. In 2018 there were 88,789 attendances at HSE podiatry clinics in the community.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,



Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations