



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
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Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
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20th February 2019

Deputy James Browne TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ Question To ask the Minister for Health the number of children admitted to adult mental health units
5601/19: in 2018 -James Browne

Dear Deputy Browne,

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

The HSE is committed to age appropriate placement and to the minimisation of the number of admissions of children to adult units, while acknowledging that, in exceptional circumstances, it will continue to be necessary, where there is a clear clinical imperative, to admit a small number of children to adult units, for the shortest time possible.

Children are admitted to adult units after efforts to place them in a Child and Adolescent In Patient Units are unsuccessful due to capacity or clinical needs. All admissions of young people under the age of 18 years are notified to the Mental Health Commission in accordance with regulations. All such admissions are also notified to a National CAMHS Lead Manager within Mental Health. The National CAMHS Lead works closely with local and national CAMHS in-patient services to ensure that the clinical needs of the young person are assessed and addressed within the most appropriate setting for that young person and their family.

The number of children admitted to adult mental health units in 2018 was 84.

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

Yours sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sinead Reynolds'.

Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services

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