



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
T 01 6207304 R: Sinead.reynolds@hse.ie
Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: sinead.reynolds@hse.ie

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Deputy James Browne
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 29643/19

To ask the Minister for Health the way in which he has provided increased access to talk therapies to date in 2019; the number of additional service users availing of the therapies; and the number of persons availing of talk therapies in each CHO area -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.

HSE mental health services provide a wide range of talking therapies. In addition to therapies offered through specialist mental health services, the HSE also provides interventions to adults at primary care level, including Counseling in Primary Care (CIPC) and the National Counseling Service. The HSE is furthermore in the process of piloting the use of online therapies. Complementing services provided by directly employed staff, the HSE funds a number of partner organisations delivering talking therapies.

The HSE is currently not collating the information requested for therapies offered through specialist mental health services. In order to facilitate greater consistency and equity of access to talking therapies, a national service improvement project is underway, which will see the development of a Model of Care for adults who access talking therapies while attending specialist mental health services. Once developed, the implementation of this Model of Care will facilitate access to a comprehensive dataset, including the number of service users availing of talking therapies.

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

Yours sincerely,

Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services

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