



09 July 2019

Deputy Denis Naughten
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 26945/19: To ask the Minister for Health the waiting times for orthodontic appointments for children in an area (details supplied); his plans to improve waiting times in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response. Following engagement with Saolta University Health Care Group, the following is the current position.

Orthodontic waiting times CHO 2 (Galway, Mayo & Roscommon)

1. Assessment: 14 months
2. Treatment Routine: 3.5 years (41 months)
3. Treatment Urgent: Case by case basis usually 3-6 months

Plans to improve waiting times:

- Business case submitted for additional nurse so that full cohort of clinics can run.
- Business case submitted for addition of 2 additional surgeries to allow additional clinics to be accommodated as physical space limited.
- Two new Consultants have started in the past year and an orthodontist therapist was trained in 2017.

Orthodontic waiting times CHO1 (Sligo/Leitrim, Donegal)

Sligo University Hospital (SUH)

- Grade 4 (routine) - 19 months
- Grade 5 (priority) - 14 months

Letterkenny University Hospital (LUH)

- Grade 4 (routine) - 43 months
- Grade 5 (priority) - 20 months

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Joseph Green
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations