



10 May 2019

Deputy Sean Fleming
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 19965/19

Re: To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the orthodontic treatment waiting list; the number that were placed on the orthodontic waiting list in each of the years 2010 to 2018 and earlier years if appropriate; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Fleming,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

- (1) The number of persons on the orthodontic treatment waiting list at the end of Q1 2019 is 18043.
- (2) Metadata for the number of orthodontic patients on the assessment waiting list at the end of the reporting period is available from 2012 and these figures have been addressed in the table below.

YEAR	NUMBER ON ORTHODONTIC PATIENTS ON THE ASSESSMENT WAITING LIST AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD
2012	6952
2013	7138
2014	5805
2015	5478
2016	6994
2017	7269
2018	10267
2019 (Q1)	9558

Assessment for Orthodontic Treatment with the HSE's Orthodontic Service is carried out through a clinical examination that includes the use of the Modified Index of Treatment Need (Modified IOTN).

There is deficit in capacity in the provision of Orthodontic Service in respect of the identified needs. The Orthodontic Services are taking all measures possible to address the waiting lists. Consultant Orthodontists leading orthodontic services prioritise children with the greatest needs for treatment. A waiting list initiative to deal with long waiting times for access to orthodontic treatment commenced in 2016 and to date has enabled treatment for an additional 1,489 of the longest waiting patients

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