



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Lacken
Dublin Road
Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784100

10th October 2019

Mr. James Browne TD
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 40191/19

To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the provision of a periodontist in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Browne,

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.

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

Periodontology is not recognised as a Dental Speciality by the Dental Council and is therefore not included in the Register of Dental Specialists.

In relation to the provision of periodontal treatment, for adults who hold a medical card, periodontal treatment is available for those defined as "high risk", under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme. This treatment is provided by the General Dental Practitioners who operate the scheme. In exceptional cases, where the General Dental Practitioner considers that the high risk patient requires more advanced periodontal treatment, the patient can be referred to Cork Dental Hospital under the Service Level Agreement with the HSE.

Within the HSE Dental Service, any periodontal treatment required by patients seen under the HSE screening programmes is generally provided by the HSE Dental Surgeons and HSE Dental Hygienists. Again in exceptional cases where more advanced treatment is required, patients can be referred to Cork Dental Hospital under the Service Level Agreement with the HSE.

Should you have any further queries in relation to same, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Anna Marie Lanigan
Head of Service - Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare