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16th December 2020 Deputy Cathal Berry Dail Eireann, Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 41070/20

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients currently awaiting all other outpatient psychiatric appointments when compared to this time in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Berry,

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.

Waiting list data is not collected routinely for general adult mental health services. Instead KPI data is collected.

The HSE has a target to see 90% of new referrals to general adult mental health teams within 12 weeks of the date the referral is received. In psychiatry of later life services, the target is to see 98% of new referrals within 12 weeks of the date the referral is received.

To Oct 2020, 90.9% of referrals accepted by General Adult teams nationally were offered an appointment within 12 weeks and 97.1% of referrals accepted by Psychiatry of Later Life teams nationally were offered an appointment within 12 weeks.

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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Dr Sinead Reynolds General Manager Mental Health Services