



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

21st July 2020
Deputy Michael Healy – Rae
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 13762/20 *To ask the Minister for Health the number of children suffering with scoliosis awaiting a procedure (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Michael Healy-Rae

Details Supplied: Minister in relation to Children who suffer from Scoliosis, how many of these children are waiting to undergo a procedure for their illness ? Can a breakdown please be given in the following manner, the hospital in which they are waiting, their age category and how long they have been waiting.

THE RESPONSE SHOULD INCLUDE DETAILS OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 AWAITING A SCOLIOSIS PROCEDURE IN SAOLTA HG, THE MATER HOSPITAL AND CHI.

Dear Deputy Healy- Rae,

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.

Response:

The management of scoliosis is complex and is determined by the severity of the curvature and skeletal maturity which together helps predict the likelihood of progression.

The HSE National Service Plan 2019 sets out among its priorities and actions to continue to build on the improvements in access to paediatric orthopaedics including surgery for scoliosis to ensure clinically appropriate waiting times, to continue close working between Cappagh Orthopaedic Hospital and Children's Health Ireland (Temple Street) to ensure that children / young adults have their scoliosis surgery undertaken in the most appropriate setting, based on clinical need and within clinically appropriate timeframe and to continue the

implementation of the care pathway for the transition of adolescents with scoliosis from Children's Health Ireland (Crumlin Services) to the MMUH.

The introduction of government restrictions for COVID-19 based on public health advice required on all hospital sites to defer all non-emergency operations. All sites are now in the process of resuming services in line with specific guidance associated with COVID issued around resumption of services. The guidance ensures patient safety and staff safety however it does impact the overall capacity of services to deliver on the same volume of activity as they would have in a pre COVID-19 environment.

In terms of the number of children suffering with scoliosis awaiting a procedure please see the figures below as at the 26th of June.

CHI at Temple Street Spinal Fusion as at 26th June 2020							
	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	5	>5	8	>5	0	>5	>5
TCI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspended	0	0	0	0	1	0	>5
Planned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CHI at Temple Street Spinal Other							
	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	>5	>5	0	>5	0	>5	>5
TCI	0	0	>5	0	0	>5	0
Suspended	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Planned	13	8	>5	0	0	0	0

CHI at Crumlin Spinal Fusion as at 26th June 2020							
	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	7	22	8	9	9	>5	7
TCI	>5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspended	0	0	>5	0	>5	0	>5
Planned	0	>5	>5	0	0	0	>5

CHI at Crumlin Spinal Other							
	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9- 12 Months	12- 15 Months	15- 18 Months	18+ Months
Active	>5	5	6	>5	6	>5	>5
TCI	>5	0	0	>5	0	0	0
Suspended	>5	0	0	0	>5	0	>5
Planned	7	>5	0	>5	0	0	0

In terms of other sites that provide surgical services for children suffering with scoliosis namely the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and University Hospital Galway both sites have advised that there is <5 patients awaiting surgery under the age of 18 and these patients will be scheduled at a mutually agreed time by the clinician the patients and their families.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Kidd
Assistant National Director
Acute Operations