



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
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22nd July 2020,

Deputy Thomas Pringle
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.

PQ 14299/20

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to progress the implementation of eating disorder teams in CHOs; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Pringle,

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.

- The HSE approved the Eating Disorder Model of Care (MOC) in Jan 2018. It was launched by Minister Daly. The MOC was developed in partnership with College of Psychiatrists of Ireland and Bodywhys.
- The MOC is the blue print for the HSE to roll out specialist eating disorder services in Ireland to address the current unmet need for specialist eating disorder service within HSE.
- Outpatient specialist care is considered to be the most effective treatment setting for most people with eating disorders including, Anorexia Nervosa, to recover sustainably. The MOC has a core focus on developing regional community based specialist eating disorder services provided by skilled multidisciplinary teams.
- The Model of Care also integrates these teams with primary care, acute medical services and inpatient mental health units, to improve patient flow and clinical pathways between community and inpatient care as needed.
- Early intervention is a key principle. In line with Slaintecare, the objective is to provide the right care to the right patient at the right time and for the right cost.
- Each regional team will provide outpatient and day programme services. They will deliver evidence based interventions in line with best international practice as detailed in the MOC. All clinicians will be senior grade with a skillset to deliver a range of interventions. An inter- disciplinary education and training model has been developed to support this and enable clinicians to deliver accessible, high quality, evidence based care.



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- The Clinical Programme works on an ongoing basis in partnership with Bodywhys to support service users and families/friends during their recovery journey. This includes strategic planning, coordination of supports needed in particular areas, and feedback.

Eating Disorders Network: Progress on implementation to date: July 2020

Aim: To establish ED network (8 adult teams and 8 CAMHS teams) in accordance with agreed Model of Care 2018 and approved implementation plan over a 5 year period starting in 2018. All teams are MDT and consultant led. Clinicians must be of senior grade with interest in this clinical speciality.

Planned developments include:

Currently there are plans for 7.4 new whole time equivalent clinical posts for CAMHS ED in CHO 4, to be progressed in 2020. In addition there are plans for 9.9 new whole time equivalent clinical posts for Adult ED to be progressed in CHO 6 - to cover a wider catchment in areas across CHO 6, 7 & 9.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours Sincerely

Jim Ryan
Assistant National Director
Head of Operations
Mental Health