



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Ref No: **PQ Number: 3413/20**

11 May 2020

Deputy Stephen Donnelly
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Donnelly

I refer to your recent PQ to the Minister for Health in which you asked 'the number of spinal fusion patients currently waiting less than 4, 4 to 8 and more than 8 months for treatment in hospitals (details supplied); and if he will provide the same information for other spinal patients

Details Supplied: for Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin and Temple Street Children's University Hospital for the end of February 2020 or the latest date available

Children's Health Ireland Response

I wish to apologise for the length of time responding to your PQ, as I sure will you understand we have been extremely busy dealing with the many issues which have arisen during the current pandemic.

As part as an overall investment from National Service Planning money, the funding for orthopaedic services allocated in 2018 with posts phased in 2019 ensured the enhancement of the entire orthopaedic service

An additional General Orthopaedic Surgeon is due to commence in Q3 2020 for CHI at Crumlin and CHI at Tallaght. This post is for general orthopaedic and trauma surgery to support the large volume of patients waiting and will further reduce waiting times for children for general orthopaedic outpatient appointment, including scoliosis. Approximately 20% of patients on the inpatient waiting list are waiting for a scoliosis procedure with 80% of children waiting for general orthopaedic procedures. These paediatric orthopaedic consultants will form part of Children's Health Ireland's consultant team and will join a cross-city team of paediatric consultants who will deliver services at Crumlin and Temple Street as well as evolving role of the Paediatric Outpatient and Urgent Care Centre at Connolly which is part of the overall vision for a cross city paediatric orthopaedic service in CHI.

* No of patients suspended from the waiting list, as patient is temporarily unavailable for surgery as per the parents or are clinically unsuitable for their procedure as per the clinician. This includes all suspensions (hospital or patient initiated)

Waiting Times for scoliosis related surgeries

Please see below, details as at week end 24th April 2020 on the number of spinal fusion patients and other spinal patients waiting for treatment at CHI Crumlin, CHI Temple Street and Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital. As previously advised the breakdown in the reporting of this data has changed for 0-3 months, 3-6 months etc to the format below.



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Spinal Fusion Waiting List							
CHI at Crumlin	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	14	9	11	6	6	>5	7
To Come In (TCI)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspended	0	0	>5	>5	0	0	0
Planned	>5	>5	>5	0	0	0	>5

Spinal Other Waiting List							
CHI at Crumlin	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	10	8	4	5	>5	>5	6
To Come In (TCI)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspended	0	>5	0	0	0	0	>5
Planned	7	7	0	>5	0	0	0

Spinal Fusion Waiting List							
CHI at Temple Street	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	4	11	3	0	0	2	0
To Come In (TCI)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspended	0	0	0	>5	0	0	>5
Planned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Spinal Other Waiting List								
CHI at Temple Street	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months	
Active	4	>5	>5	0	>5	>5	0	
To Come In (TCI)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Suspended	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Planned	12	9	0	0	0	0	0	

CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 Revenue Charitable Status CHY: 22235

Board Members: Prof James Browne (Chairman), Mr Con Cronin, Ms Mary Cryan, Mr Liam Dowdall, Prof Martin Elliott, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Anne Kilgallen, Dr Gavin Lavery, Ms Brigid McManus, Mr Turlough O'Sullivan, Mr Sean Sheehan

Spinal Fusion Waiting List							
Cappagh Hospital	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18+ Months
Active	6	>5	>5	0	0	0	0
To Come In (TCI)	>5	>5	>5	0	0	0	0
Suspended	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Planned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

See below update on scoliosis related surgeries as at week ending 24 April 2020.



Children's Health Ireland (CHI)

Update on Scoliosis Related Surgeries

Published on 27th April 2020



Dedicated Line for Parents
Both CHI at Crumlin and CHI at Temple Street have a dedicated line in place for parents only to deal with queries in relation to their child's scoliosis care plan.

Total Surgeries (including single and multiple stages) performed as of 24th April 2020

Week Ending 24/04/2020	CHI at Crumlin	CHI at Temple Street	Cappagh Hospital	Total
Number of Spinal Fusion YTD	31	8	4	43
Number of Other Spinal Procedures YTD	24	15	2	41
Total	55	23	6	84

CHI at Temple Street
Tel: 01 892 1830
Mon – Fri: 9.00am – 12.00 noon

CHI at Crumlin
Tel: 01 409 6877
Mon – Fri: 9.00am – 12.00 noon

Total number of patients on waiting lists clinically deemed as requiring surgery as of 24th April 2020

Week Ending 24/04/2020	Number of patients on waiting list waiting for scoliosis related surgeries Includes active, pre-admit and planned procedures (excluding suspensions*)	
	Number waiting for Spinal Fusion	Number waiting for other spinal procedures
CHI at Crumlin	62	54
CHI at Temple Street	20	31
Cappagh Hospital	18	0
Total	100	85

* Suspensions are patients temporarily unavailable due to clinical or family reasons



I trust this is of assistance to you.

Your sincerely

Joe Gannon
Chief Operations Officer



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