



2nd December 2020

Deputy Sorca Clarke,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 38613/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the diabetes services for younger persons available by county.
-Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The Model of Care for All Children and Young People with Type 1 Diabetes (2015) sets out how paediatric diabetes services should be configured nationally in order to deliver high quality paediatric diabetes care so as to optimise control and prevent diabetes related complications. This agreed model outlines how every child with diabetes should be linked to a regional diabetes multidisciplinary team service led by a Consultant Paediatric Endocrinologist (or Consultant Paediatrician with training and continuing medical education (CME) in Paediatric diabetes). The multidisciplinary team (MDT) members required include:

- Diabetes Nurse Specialist
- Dietitian
- Mental Health Professional

Ratios of team members are outlined within the Model of Care. While there has been significant investment in paediatric diabetes services in some areas, the model has not been funded and gaps in services remain. Many services are under resourced for their patient numbers which limits their ability to deliver optimal care.

Regional services led by trained Paediatric Endocrinologists are located in:

- CHI (3 sites)
- Galway (with outreach to Castlebar and Portiuncula)
- Sligo (with outreach to Letterkenny)
- Limerick

- Cork (with some outreach to Kerry and Clonmel)
- Waterford
- Mullingar (currently this service is closed to new patients because of nursing and dietetic gaps)

Individual paediatric services are delivered by General Paediatricians in:

- Drogheda (with full MDT in place),
- Cavan (with some links to CHI for younger children)
- Portlaoise
- Kilkenny
- Wexford.

These services are not integrated formally with regional services at this time.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



TJ Dunford.
Interim Head of Primary Care Operations/AND.
Community Operations