



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett,  
Príomhoifigeach, Eagraíocht Cúram  
Sláinte Pobail, Lár Tíre, An Lú, An  
Mhí  
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Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An  
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2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020

Mr. Ruairí Ó Murchú T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: Parliamentary Question – 29262/20**

To ask the Minister for Health the numbers of dentists, dental nurses, clinical dental technicians and orthodontists working in primary care sites in the CHO8 area in February 2020 and June 2020, in tabular form - Ruairí Ó Murchú.

Dear Deputy Ó Murchú,

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 outline response as follows.

<b>LOUTH MEATH DENTAL SERVICE</b>				
<b>Grade</b>	<b>Number in Primary Care February</b>	<b>Number in Primary Care June</b>	<b>% providing a Dental service June</b>	<b>% Redeployed June</b>
Dental Surgeon	15	8	53%	47%
Dental Nurse	28	14	50%	50%
Dental Hygienist	4	0	0	100%
Staff working clinically	47	22	47%	53%

Staff were re-deployed to Covid testing as this was the national clinical priority identified by NEPHT which the HSE and in turn our CHO had to prioritise.

Midlands Dental Service				
Grade	Number in Primary Care February	Number in Primary Care June	% providing a Dental service June	% Redeployed June
Dental Surgeon	14	5	36	64
Dental Hygienist	7	0	0	100
Dental Nurse	32	12	38	62
Total staff	53	17	32	68

Please note the figures denoted in the template are the actual numbers of personnel and not the WTEs. A significant number of dental nurses work part time. Please also note there are no clinical Dental Technicians employed by the Midlands Dental Service.

Louth/Meath Orthodontics Service		
Grade	Number in Primary Care February	Number in Primary Care June
Consultant Orthodontist	1	1
Orthodontist	2	2
Dental Nurse	4	4
Therapist	2	2

Midlands Orthodontics Service		
Grade	Number in Primary Care February	Number in Primary Care June
Specialist Orthodontist	2.8	.33*
Dental Nurse	5.4	1.6

\*Note in June 2020 2 WTE Specialist Orthodontists were involved in swabbing at Covid test centres

I trust the above is in order and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,



Pat Bennett  
Chief Officer CHO Area 8