



Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair &
Tuaisceart Chontae
Bhaile Átha Cliath

Community Healthcare
Organisation
Dublin North City &
County

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Cúram Príomhúil,
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae
Bhaile Átha Cliath,
Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna,
Bhaile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9, DO9 C8P5.

☎: 01 8467341 ✉: hopc.dncc@hse.ie

Head of Service Primary Care,
HSE Community Healthcare Organisation
Dublin North City & County,
Ballymun Healthcare Facility,
Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

Ms. Neasa Hourigan, TD
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

23rd October 2020

PQ 31777/20 – To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that there is no provision of general anaesthetic services for small children accessing dental health services in Dublin North City CHO 9; his plans to address same; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Neasa Hourigan

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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 limited access to Dental General Anaesthetic (GA) is indeed a major challenge to the service. Since the Unit based at St. James's Hospital closed the Dental Paediatric GA has been accessed through the private hospitals. During the pandemic, this service all but ceased.

The Service Agreement (SA) with the private hospitals is now out-of-date and contracted services were withdrawn in June 2020. This is affecting the whole of the Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) area. Currently we can access a Dental GA only in a severe emergency.

We are awaiting a new SA with the private providers and also awaiting the opening of the new Children Health Ireland (CHI) Dental GA service based on the site of Connolly Hospital. This issue is of the highest priority to the Dental managers and the National Oral Health Office.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Des O'Flynn
Head of Service Primary Care