



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Ms. Violet Anne Wynne, TD,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2,
D02XR20

30th September 2020

Re: PQ 23410/20 "To ask the Minister for Health the number of youths and adults awaiting counselling services across the mid-west over and under 18 years of age and waiting 3, 6 and more than 12 months by county in tabular form"

Dear Deputy Wynne,

I acknowledge receipt of the above parliamentary question.

I wish to advise that CHO3 have no-one waiting over 3 months for CIPC (Primary Care) counselling.

The waiting times for adults awaiting counselling with the National Adult counselling Service in the Mid West is as follows:

Numbers waiting for counselling NCS (Adults who have experienced past abuse) September 2020

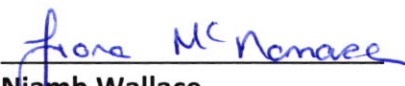
Waiting	Limerick	Clare	Tipperary North
3 months +	8	2	2
6 months +	7	1	1
12 months +	35	29	16
	50	32	19

These figures are not typical or representative for a number of reasons. Usually percentages waiting are 60-70% Limerick, 25-35% North Tipperary, 15-20% Clare. Over the last 18 months the Service has received more than the usual number of referrals from Community Mental Health Teams in Clare. These are usually very complex and remain longer in counselling than those who are self-referred, and can lead to stagnant waiting lists in areas affected.

Service staffing is generally allocated on a population basis, with demand by many to be seen outside their own area of residence, preferably in the city, especially if they work or study there.

I trust this clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

P.P. 
Niamh Wallace
Head of Service,
Mid West Mental Health Services