



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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**17th September 2020,
Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.**

PQ Number: 23937/20

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults in each LHO area awaiting a mental health services appointment at the end of August 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting 0 to 12, 12 to 26, 26 to 52 and more than 52 weeks, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

There are two types of referral to mental health services; an urgent referral and a routine referral. Every effort is made to prioritise urgent referrals so that those with high risk presentations are seen as soon as possible and this is normally achieved within 24- 48 hours.

The HSE has 112 Adult Community Mental Health Teams and 32 Psychiatry of Later Life (POLL) teams across nine Community Health Organisations .

Waiting list for adult and older adult mental health teams are not captured nationally however data relating to access and wait times are.

As of end of July 90% of new /re-referred adults were offered an appointment by adult mental health community teams nationally within 12 weeks.

As of end of July 97% of new /re-referred older adults were offered an appointment by adult mental health community teams nationally within 12 weeks.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services