



29th September 2020

Deputy Sean Sherlock,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 24149/20 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting occupational therapy in each CHO by age and length of time waiting for assesment in tabular form

-Sean Sherlock

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

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 spread of COVID-19 is posing significant challenges for many service areas, including all Therapy Services. In light of these unprecedented challenges together with the Government's guidance on social distancing and on 'Cocooning' for those aged over 70, the HSE has had to reassess its operation of Community Therapy Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

As a result of the national effort across all Community Healthcare Organisations throughout the country, some aspects of normal monthly reporting have been delayed. Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists in Occupational Therapy for persons aged 0 – 17 years as of August 2020, which is the latest available data at this time.

Please note the list of LHO areas at the bottom of the Appendix which did not return data, as some areas were not in a position to return data due to staff being redeployed to Covid-19 related duties. Please also note that because of this the overall accuracy of the waiting list data is impacted.

The HSE is working to ensure timely access to children and adults requiring therapy services, and to reduce long waiting times for these important services.

As this is an evolving and unprecedented situation, the HSE will keep matters in review and will advise clients and/or family members accordingly.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Siobhán McArdle', written on a light-colored background.

Pp

Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations

Appendix 1: Occupational Therapy - Number of Patients Awaiting First Time Assessment August 2020

CHO	Former LHO	0 - 4 Yrs 11 Months					5 - 17 Yrs 11 Months					TOTAL
		0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52 weeks	> 52 weeks	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52 weeks	> 52 weeks	
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	19	10	37	35	32	32	43	54	55	619	936
	Donegal	23	21	21	21	13	34	17	25	28	40	243
	Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CHO1 Total	42	31	58	56	45	66	60	79	83	659	1,179
CHO 2	Galway	4	2	8	1	0	8	31	38	29	0	121
	Mayo	27	20	22	18	124	15	28	56	51	727	1,088
	Roscommon	19	3	8	5	8	20	87	71	121	459	801
	CHO2 Total	50	25	38	24	132	43	146	165	201	1,186	2,010
CHO 3	Clare	2	1	2	0	0	16	13	22	5	1	62
	Limerick	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	North Tipperary East Limerick	3	2	2	2	1	14	28	41	23	15	131
	CHO3 Total	5	3	4	2	1	30	41	63	28	16	193
CHO 4	Kerry	18	6	16	19	18	20	33	54	51	370	605
	North Cork	4	6	8	4	5	12	22	45	31	259	396
	North Lee	43	39	31	15	27	36	107	120	115	662	1,195
	South Lee	18	30	20	6	7	48	68	116	59	212	584
	West Cork	7	4	4	8	5	17	25	50	35	121	276
	CHO4 Total	90	85	79	52	62	133	255	385	291	1,624	3,056
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	31	45	50	49	80	50	52	78	85	235	755
	South Tipperary	10	10	28	41	71	44	39	82	56	223	604
	Waterford	16	12	30	23	139	22	41	66	48	411	808
	Wexford	34	21	50	23	126	52	72	135	107	765	1,385
	CHO5 Total	91	88	158	136	416	168	204	361	296	1,634	3,552
CHO 6	Dublin South East	4	3	17	3	27	9	18	40	16	84	221
	Dun Laoghaire	15	21	10	33	43	7	15	37	42	132	355
	Wicklow	9	15	18	26	55	17	37	61	62	399	699
	CHO6 Total	28	39	45	62	125	33	70	138	120	615	1,275
CHO 7	Dublin South City	26	8	16	4	39	19	18	25	37	34	226
	Dublin South West	9	10	6	13	89	16	13	44	53	668	921
	Dublin West	14	35	48	54	84	38	57	180	123	184	817
	Kildare West Wicklow	4	6	17	10	32	36	34	61	78	689	967
	CHO7 Total	53	59	87	81	244	109	122	310	291	1,575	2,931
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	67	73	82	69	232	138	200	211	162	1,488	2,722
	Longford Westmeath	33	22	52	16	1	45	42	75	19	4	309
	Louth	26	35	36	20	56	34	46	92	65	370	780
	Meath	16	12	24	19	1	82	130	164	117	58	623
	CHO8 Total	142	142	194	124	290	299	418	542	363	1,920	4,434
CHO 9	Dublin North	54	31	61	54	241	87	55	78	86	728	1,475
	Dublin Nth Central	11	13	24	27	24	11	3	42	23	104	282
	Dublin North West	43	49	74	39	194	64	22	12	8	394	899
	CHO9 Total	108	93	159	120	459	162	80	132	117	1,226	2,656
National Total		609	565	822	657	1,774	1,043	1,396	2,175	1,790	10,455	21,286

Note: August data not returned for Sligo/Leitrim and Limerick.