



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare
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22nd April 2021

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 18453/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults on the dental appointment waiting list in County Wexford; the average waiting time for appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following response outlines the current position.

Adult medical card holders access dental treatment under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme, which is operated by General Dental Practitioners who hold a contract with the HSE. I am aware that many General Dental Practitioners have resigned from the scheme and that many adult medical card patients are finding it increasingly difficult to access dental treatment, including emergency treatment. The HSE does not hold a waiting list of these adult patients.

The only adult waiting list held by the Wexford Dental Service is the waiting list for adults with special needs who require dental treatment under general anaesthesia. At present, there are 68 adults on this list. The average waiting time is not available, the longest waiting time is just in excess of 36 months.

Adults who require specialist dental services are referred to Cork Dental Hospital. The waiting lists for these services are held and managed by the Dental Hospital.

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

Yours sincerely,

Jeanne Hendrick
A/Head of Service-Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare