



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath20.  
T 01 6207304 R: [jim.ryan1@hse.ie](mailto:jim.ryan1@hse.ie)

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service  
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20  
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: [jim.ryan1@hse.ie](mailto:jim.ryan1@hse.ie)

26<sup>th</sup> July 2021,

Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

PQ 21658/21

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of cases in which patients of mental health services were prescribed excessive amounts of medication in the previous five years by county; the types of medication which were excessively prescribed; if there have been incidents of harm as a result of this; if so, the number of cases and extent of harm; the safeguards in place to prevent this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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 HSE does not capture this data in the format you have requested. The HSE records medication errors where the wrong dose/strength is recorded as an issue, this could be a higher or lower dose. In 2020, there were 76 recorded issues; all 76 were reported as negligible severity. Of the 77 recorded 21 were recorded as near miss (category 0), 54 were recorded as no injury (category 1), and 1 was recorded as injury requiring medical treatment (category 4).

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

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi  
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health  
Clinical Design and Innovation  
Health Service Executive