



17<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Deputy Thomas Gould, TD  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ: 6418-21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of needle exchanges and their operating hours by county in 2019 and 2020, respectively.**

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your 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 National Pharmacy Needle Exchange programme provides for needle exchange outside the greater Dublin region generally although there are a number of services in operation as per the tables below. Data is not collated by county but rather by HSE Community Healthcare Organisations (CHOs). The following tables outline the number of needle exchanges and their opening hours, per HSE CHOs, for each of the years 2019 and 2020.

**2019**

CHO Area	Needle Exchange	Opening Hours
CHO 1. Donegal, Sligo/Leitrim, West Cavan, Cavan/Monaghan	10 Pharmacies	
CHO 2. Galway, Roscommon, Mayo.	12 Pharmacies	
CHO 3. Clare, Limerick, North Tipperary, East Limerick	2 services	9am – 5pm Mon-Fri 2.30pm – 5pm Mon - Thurs
	15 Pharmacies	
CHO 4. Cork/Kerry	1 service	9am - 6pm Mon - Fri
	17 Pharmacies	
CHO 5. South Tipperary, Carlow/Kilkenny,	8 services	9am - 6pm Mon - Fri
	14 Pharmacies	

Waterford, Wexford.		
CHO 6. Wicklow, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin South-East. & CHO 7. Kildare/West Wicklow, Dublin West, Dublin South City & Dublin South- West	16 services	Varied opening hours 10-am to 4pm Mon – Fri Outreach outside of fixed times 10am-1pm Sat – Sun in some locations
CHO 8. Laois/Offaly, Longford Westmeath, Louth and Meath	1 service 28 Pharmacies	9am – 5.30pm Mon - Fri
CHO 9. Dublin North, Dublin North- Central, Dublin North-West	9 services	Varied opening hours across CHO9 mon – Fri.

## 2020

CHO Area	Needle Exchange	Opening Hours
CHO 1. Donegal, Sligo/Leitrim, West Cavan, Cavan/Monaghan	9 Pharmacies	
CHO 2. Galway, Roscommon, Mayo.	10 Pharmacies	
CHO 3. Clare, Limerick, North Tipperary, East Limerick	2 services	9am – 5pm Mon – Fri 9.30am – 5pm Mon - Fri
	12 Pharmacies	
CHO 4. Cork/Kerry	1 service	9am - 6pm Mon - Fri
	17 Pharmacies	
CHO 5. South Tipperary, Carlow/Kilkenny, Waterford, Wexford.	8 services	9am - 6pm Mon - Fri
	14 Pharmacies	
CHO 6. Wicklow, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin South-East. & CHO 7. Kildare/West Wicklow, Dublin West, Dublin South City & Dublin South-West	16 services	Varied opening hours 10-am to 4pm Mon – Fri Outreach outside of fixed times 10am-1pm Sat – Sun in some locations

CHO 8. Laois/Offaly, Longford Westmeath, Louth and Meath	MQI DATS Project	9am – 5.30pm Mon - Fri
	28 Pharmacies	
CHO 9. Dublin North, Dublin North-Central, Dublin North-West	9 services	Varied opening hours across CHO 9 mon – Fri.

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

Yours sincerely,




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Dr. Eamon Keenan  
National Clinical Lead – Addiction Services