



30th March 2021

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

PQ 14151/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the waiting times for children for physiotherapy assessment and intervention by CHO in tabular form; and the length of time each age group is waiting

-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 Physiotherapy for patients under aged 18 as of February 2021, 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,



TJ Dunford,
Head of Operations Primary Care/A.N.D.
Community Operations

Appendix 1 - Physiotherapy - Number of Patients waiting for Assessment February 2021

CHO Area	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	> 52 weeks	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52	> 52 weeks	
CHO1 Total	109	53	37	20	45	121	74	35	49	446	989
CHO2 Total	74	39	14	15	96	146	68	31	25	246	754
CHO3 Total	75	22	11	2	30	82	66	14	6	13	321
CHO4 Total	175	151	76	37	20	171	135	65	112	226	1,168
CHO5 Total	142	60	13	7	59	118	89	34	19	66	607
CHO6 Total	101	25	14	9	344	47	31	18	16	51	656
CHO7 Total	209	222	94	46	440	145	215	158	107	965	2,601
CHO8 Total	231	105	45	26	417	233	193	137	160	450	1,997
CHO9 Total	130	133	58	46	25	51	73	28	32	361	937
National Total	1,246	810	362	208	1,476	1,114	944	520	526	2,824	10,030

Note: February data not returned for Dublin North West (CHO 9)