



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire  
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

7<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Deputy Catherine Connolly,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 14838/21**

"To ask the Minister for Health if the recently recruited multi-disciplinary team for children in chronic pain is currently seeing patients; if not, the reason for the delay; the timeline for when they will commence seeing patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy Connolly,

I refer to your parliamentary question above to which I have been asked to provide a response.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) is aware that the current interim situation regarding our Paediatric Complex Pain Management Service is a cause of much anxiety and upset for parents and children.

CHI secured funding from the HSE to develop a Paediatric Complex Pain Management Service and has recruited the following new posts; Occupational Therapist, Psychologist, Physiotherapist and Advance Nurse Practitioner.

As an interim measure while the active consultant recruitment campaign remains underway, CHI has arranged for a Consultant Anaesthesiologist in Northern Ireland, who specialises in both Paediatric and Adult Pain Management, to stand up weekly clinics for CHI at Crumlin and CHI at Temple Street since June 2020.

These weekly complex pain clinics take place in CHI at Connolly Urgent Care Centre and include the full Multidisciplinary Team.

Yours sincerely,

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**Joe Gannon**  
**Chief Operations Officer**  
**Children's Health Ireland**