



Denis Naughten TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

7th April 2021

PQ 14866/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of medical assessments for primary medical certificate applications that have taken place to date in 2021; the number that have taken place by county to date in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Denis Naughten”

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 14866/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. The number of medical assessments for primary medical certificates carried out between January and March 2021 is set out in the table below. Note that the available data is by CHO area.

CHO Area	Number of assessments carried out between January and March 2021
1	45
2	164 (* see note below)
3	3
4	41
5	31
6	17
7	12
8	26
9	62
TOTAL	401

* CHO 2 advised that 164 assessments were all done by Telehealth and of those 118 assessments could not be granted based on remote assessment only and an in person assessment is required.

There are challenges in some CHO areas in progressing assessments for primary medical certificates due to redeployment of Medical Officers particularly in regard to the COVID Vaccine Programme and management of outbreaks in Residential Care Facilities across the country. The HSE is currently revising its service recovery and restoration plans taking account of the COVID pressure challenges presenting. Assessments for primary medical certificates are considered in that context.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TJ Dunford', written on a light-colored background.

TJ Dunford

Head of Operations; Primary Care.

Community Operations.