



30th June 2021

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 22584/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for physiotherapy services by county; the average wait time; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Rose Conway-Walsh

Dear Deputy Conway-Walsh,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 22584/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health 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.

The HSE does not report average waiting time for this service. However, please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for children in physiotherapy as of March 2021. This was the latest data available prior to the recent cyber-attack on the HSE. Where an individual LHO was unable to return the waiting list data for the month in question that is noted at the bottom of the waiting list table.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality physiotherapy services to all eligible service users. In 2020, there were 414,345 patients seen by HSE community physiotherapy services.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Maeve Raeside
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations