



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath20.

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**30<sup>th</sup> June 2021,  
Deputy Mark Ward  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.**

**PQ 24073/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the CHO areas which have been selected as a pilot site for the implementation of the model of care, adults accessing talking therapies while attending specialist mental health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

**PQ 24075/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the criteria used in choosing the pilot sites for the implementation of the model of care, adults accessing talking therapies while attending specialist mental health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

**PQ 24076/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the expected date for the first person to access talk therapy using the scheme in relation to the model of care, adults accessing talking therapies while attending specialist mental health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

This 'Model of Care for Adults Accessing Talking Therapies while Attending Specialist Mental Health Services' (MoC) has been developed in accordance with the HSE's National Framework for developing Policies, Procedures, Protocols and Guidelines. It has been put together in close collaboration with clinicians, service users and family members with experience of delivering or accessing talking therapy interventions. Co-production, inclusivity and transparency have been central to the entire process, as have been a continuing focus on how talking therapies may best support the recovery journey of those who need our specialist mental health services.

The HSE received funding which allowed for the development of five pilot sites to demonstrate the MoC for talking therapies in mental health services.

The sites selected were in CHOs 1, 5, 6, 7 and 8.



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This decision was based on a number of criteria including:

- Current resource allocation where CHOs with less resources available for the delivery of mental health services were prioritised over those CHOs where more resources are available
- The need to ensure an urban-rural mix so that the pilot sites deliver information which may be of assistance in the national roll out of this MoC
- The need to ensure that CHOs are able to deliver on this innovation. This meant that we considered the full range of service improvement funding available and the division of this across the CHOs so that there was a spread of resource across the CHOs.

A National Implementation Project Steering Group and Project Working Group have been convened to develop national implementation guidelines for the Model of Care and to support and oversee local CHO plans in each pilot site. Selected CHOs are actively progressing the recruitment of posts for both a Mini-Hub and selected CMHTs in their area, once recruited staff will commence operating the MOC.

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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Jim Ryan  
Assistant National Director  
Head of Operations