



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Catherine Murphy,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

29th November 2021

PQ Number: 55759/21

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of referrals in each CHO to the Self-Harm Intervention Programme in 2019, 2020 and to date in 2021 - Catherine Murphy

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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.

In 2014, the National Clinical Programme for the Assessment and Management of Patients who Present to the Emergency Department (NCPSE) was introduced in a number of emergency departments (ED). In 2016 an agreed Model of Care was published and the service expanded. It established a clinical framework to ensure that any person who presents to the ED following self-harm or with suicide-related ideation receives a compassionate, empathic, validating response, and a therapeutic assessment and intervention from a suitably trained mental health professional; that every effort is made to ensure that a family member or supportive adult is involved in assessment and safety planning, and that they are followed up and linked to appropriate next care.

Consultant Psychiatrists, Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialists and non-Consultant Hospital Doctors are responsible for delivering the programme, with Area Management Teams from each service ensuring it is fully implemented. The funding and appointment of dedicated Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) to emergency departments has contributed to the improvements in response for people with self-harm or suicide-related ideation in each ED.

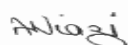
The number of presentations to each emergency department (ED) is collected each month by each CNS and collated centrally. The table below outlines the number of presentations by ED for 2019 and 2020 based on the data submitted and shown by CHO. Some hospital data is incomplete and should be considered when reviewing the data.

| CHO | No. ED | Hospitals | Total Presentations per CHO |
|-----|--------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 3 | Letterkenny, Sligo, Cavan | 2, 239 |
| 2 | 3 | Mayo, Galway, Portiuncula | 3, 524 |
| 3 | 1 | Limerick | 2, 637 |
| 4 | 3 | CUH, Mercy, Kerry | 4, 246 |
| 5 | 4 | Waterford, Wexford, Kilkenny, South Tipp | 4, 295 |
| 6 | 1 | SVUH | 2, 513 |
| 7 | 3 | Tallaght, James, Naas * posts in Tallaght and James were vacant in 2019 and 2020 there is no data available | 1, 349 |
| 8 | 3 | Mullingar, Tullamore, Portlaoise | 1, 381 |
| 9 | 3 | Beaumont, Connolly, Mater | 7, 713 |

Data for 2021 is currently been collated and verified and is expected to be available by Q2 2022.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
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