



10th December 2021

Deputy Johnny Guirke,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 56632/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on waiting lists for hearing aids through the medical card scheme in each of the years 2017 to 2020 and to date in 2021, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Johnny Guirke

Dear Deputy Guirke,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 55632/21) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE Community Audiology service provides hearing assessments and management for infants, children and adult medical card holders.

Please see the tables below, which contain information relating to the waiting lists for hearing aids in each of the years 2017 to 2021 and to date in 2021.

HSE Community Adult Waiting List by CHO from 2017 to 2020

Adults	CHO 1	CHO 2	CHO 3	CHO 4	CHO 5	CHO 6/7	CHO 8	CHO 9
2017	1358	648	NA	1757	1352	499	1506	149
2018	1591	1404	942	2147	2060	253	1186	138
2019	2062	1570	609	1938	2403	371	1146*	643
2020	1475	1323	977	2021	2243	NA	1335	666

Note: *No return for Laois/Offaly in 2019, average based on 2020 and 2018 figures is used instead.

The National Audiology Clinical Management System (NACMS) was fully implemented in the community Audiology services in November 2020, from this point there is robust data in relation to the community Audiology service.

HSE Community Adult Waiting List as of December 2021

WL Category	CHO 1	CHO 2	CHO 3	CHO 4	CHO 5	CHO 6	CHO 7	CHO 8	CHO 9	Total
Adult Hearing Aid Assessment	391	1,122	725	1,237	1,238	102	463	917	388	6,583
Adult Hearing Aid Fitting List	59	59	165	126	211	0	1	0	0	621
Adult HA 6 Week Review	274	1	191	220	223	0	1	8	55	973
Adult HA ReAssessment	404	692	190	0	269	19	222	506	207	2,509
Domiciliary	15	4	1	12	4	2	3	1	0	42
Impressions n Earmoulds	7	24	10	36	3	2	7	0	3	92
Total	1,150	1,902	1,282	1,631	1,948	125	697	1,432	653	10,820

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations