



20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Deputy John Brady,  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 48399/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults awaiting occupational therapy in CHO6 in County Wicklow and CHO7 in west County Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- John Brady**

Dear Deputy Brady,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 48399/21) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

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 is committed to delivering efficient high quality Occupational Therapy services to all eligible service users. In 2020, there were 310,153 Occupational Therapy patients seen by HSE community Occupational Therapy services.

In CHO 6, there are currently 325 adults on the waiting list for Occupational Therapy in Wicklow.

In CHO 7, there are 52 adults on the waiting list for Occupational Therapy in West Wicklow. Referral rates are high but all cases are screened and prioritised appropriately on receipt of referral to ensure that the most urgent cases are seen in a timely manner.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán McArt**  
General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations