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**17 September 2021**

**Deputy Martin Browne  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2**

**PQ 43004/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists in County Tipperary currently participating in the dental medical card scheme; and his plans to address the number of dentists leaving the scheme which has left medical card patients in many areas with no access to dental treatment.**

Dear Deputy Browne,

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

Under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) Dentists who have a contract with the Health Services Executive (HSE) can carry out dental treatment on patients who have a medical card. If someone is over 16 years and has a current medical card then that person is entitled to free dental treatment from any of the Dentists on the DTSS list. There are 45 dentists in County Tipperary that hold contracts with the DTSS and are listed in Appendix 1.

In the course of 2020, services were curtailed for a period due to Covid-19 restrictions. Revised infection prevention and control measures have reduced throughput in dental practices. A number of dental contractors have resigned from the scheme, which has also affected access for patients. The HSE is aware that some medical card holders have experienced difficulties in accessing dental treatment under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme.

Where this is made known to the HSE, each enquiry and representation is followed up by local community services who seek to assist medical card holders.

As well as assisting medical card holders, the HSE is working closely with the Department of Health in relation to the operation of the scheme, and addressing difficulties faced by some patients accessing services.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

**Joseph Green  
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations**

## Appendix 1: DTSS Contractors in County Tipperary

Forename	Surname	Address	Local Health Office Description
James	Dodd	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Jacques	Lumbroso	Nenagh Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Padraig G.	O'Reachtagain	Roscrea Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Michael G.	Ryan	Nenagh Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Liam	Tuohy	Thurles Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Terry	Farrelly	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Andrew	Kelly	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Rory	Linehan	Co. Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Elaine	Guinan	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Corinne	Dwyer	Thurles Co.Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Ann Marie	Julian	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Elzbieta	Timmons	Nenagh Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Aidan	Burke	Thurles Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Romana	Czemko	Nenagh Co.Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Cathal	O'Donoghue	Thurles Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Elizabeth	Kelleher	Thurles Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Elizabeth	Kelleher	Thurles Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Marykate	Glynn	Roscrea Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Julianne	Cronin	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Patricia	Ryan	Nenagh Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Lawrence	Burke	Tipperary	North Tipp./East Limerick
Claire	Coleman	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary
Donald	Daly	Tipperary	South Tipperary
Siobhan	Stapleton	Tipperary	South Tipperary
Corinne	Dwyer	Thurles Tipperary	South Tipperary
Daniel	O'Connell	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary
David	Tuohy	Tipperary	South Tipperary
Patrick Gerard	Kaar	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary
Gerard Brian	O'Sullivan	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary
Stephen	Togher	Clonmel Co.Tipperary	South Tipperary
Michael Clement	O'Sullivan	Tipperary	South Tipperary
John	Heaney	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary
Yvonne	Lonergan	Tipperary	South Tipperary
Ronan	O'Donoghue	Church St Cahir Tipperary	South Tipperary
Rory	Linehan	Cashel Co. Tipperary.	South Tipperary
Liam	Tuohy	Cashel Tipperary	South Tipperary
Siobhan	Stapleton	Tipperary Town Tipperary	South Tipperary
Jerome	Kiely	Tipperary Town Tipperary	South Tipperary
Monica	Ryan	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary
Joan	Power	Tipperary Town Tipperary	South Tipperary
Fiona	Dowling	Carrick On Suir Tipperary	South Tipperary
Patrick	O' Conner	Clonmel Tipperary	South Tipperary

Katie	O' Connor	Clonmel Co Tipperary	South Tipperary	
Neil	Bermingham	Co Tipperary	South Tipperary	
Connor	Slattery	Co. Tipperary	South Tipperary	