



4th October 2021

Deputy Denis Naughten
Unit 3 Golf Links Road
Roscommon
Co. Roscommon
F42 YX65

PQ 44471/21

To ask the Minister for Health the current number on each waiting list in counties Galway, Mayo and Roscommon for an urgent and non-urgent paediatric dietician appointment; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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

The following table outlines the number on the Primary Care waiting lists in Galway, Mayo and Roscommon.

Primary Care Dietetics Waiting Lists	Urgent (Priority 1)	Non-Urgent (Priority 2)
Galway	21	137
Mayo	7	100
Roscommon	31	69

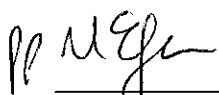
The delays are attributable to the following factors;

- The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to the delay in appointment times. While virtual clinics were offered during the pandemic, some clients declined the appointments and therefore remained on the waiting lists. Face-to-face appointments in Galway, Mayo & Roscommon resumed since June 2021.
- There is currently no dedicated Primary Care Dietetic Paediatric Service in Mayo and Roscommon. The Adult Dietitian service currently see Paediatric patients in their clinics to meet the increasing number of high priority paediatric referrals. There is 1 WTE Paediatric Dietitian in West Galway City Network, 0.5 WTE Paediatric Dietitian in East Galway City and Central Galway Network.
- There has also been an increased complexity of cases being referred to Primary Care in the past 18 months.

- Since the onset of the pandemic there has been an increase in the number of patients now referred to Primary Care versus Acute service out-patients, resulting in increased waiting lists.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Warde
Head of Primary Care
Galway, Mayo and Roscommon