



12<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Deputy Mattie McGrath,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 46188/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications waiting for a primary medical certificate by county; the current application processing time for a primary medical certificate; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- Mattie McGrath**

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Dear Deputy McGrath,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 46188/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The latest available data is at June 2021 and this is available by CHO area. See attached Appendix 1, which shows the numbers waiting to be assessed at June 2021. Please note that the average current processing time for a primary medical certificate is not available.

There are challenges in some CHO areas in progressing assessments for primary medical certificates due to redeployment of Medical Officers particularly in regard to the COVID Vaccine Programme. The HSE is currently revising its service recovery and restoration plans taking account of the COVID pressure challenges presenting. Assessments for primary medical certificates are considered in that context and every option is being considered to address the backlog for assessments for primary medical certificates.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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

## Appendix 1 - Primary Medical Certificates - data at June 2021

CHO Area	Number of people waiting to be assessed for a primary medical certificate at June 2021
CHO 1	71
CHO 2	88
CHO 3	125
CHO 4	211
CHO 5	142
CHO 6	34
CHO 7	37
CHO 8	105
CHO 9	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>835</b>