



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,  
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.  
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,  
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,  
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682  
E: [community.primarycare@hse.ie](mailto:community.primarycare@hse.ie)

28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

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

**PQ 19350/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for ophthalmology appointments throughout the country and within each CHO; the type of appointment; the length of time waiting; 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 19350/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The spread of Covid-19 has posed 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.

Please find the attached appendix which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting list for Ophthalmology as of March 2022. Please note that where an individual CHO was unable to return the waiting list data for the month in question, that it is noted at the bottom of the waiting list table.

Appendix 1 – Ophthalmology – Number of Patients waiting for Treatment March 2022.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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