



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,
Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
R: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

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St Loman's Hospital,
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Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

11th January 2023

PQ Number: 61985/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country; the countries in which they are being treated; the way that this consultation was arranged; the length of time that this has practice has existed; when these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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

In order to answer your Parliamentary Question a response was sought from each of the nine Community Healthcare Organisations hence the delay in responding to this request. Please see information requested below. Please be advised that data is point in time.

CHO 1: Response as at 16/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**
3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**

CHO 2: Response as at 12/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**
3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**



CHO 3: Response as at 19/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**
3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**

CHO 4: Response as at 20/12/2022

As part of the response to ongoing Consultant vacancy in Kerry CAMHS, and in line with recommendation 18 of the Maskey report, a very successful telemedicine clinic was established in January 2022.

All children and families are given a choice as to whether they are happy to participate in a telemedicine clinic and are asked prior to the appointments to give their consent. If they do not wish to have a consultation by means of tele-clinic they are offered a face to face consultation with another Consultant as soon as this can be arranged. The team have a standardised operating policy in place to ensure that the tele medicine clinics operate in a clinically safe and effective manner. It is important to note that the children are not being treated in a different country as they present to the team base in Killarney where they are supported by a team member when they meet the Consultant. The Consultant treating the children currently works from Doha and travels to Killarney every 3 months.

Colleagues in Mental Health Services Cork Kerry Community Healthcare have advised that to date, the Consultant has treated 106 children since the clinic commenced and to date the feedback received from young people and their families have been positive.

CHO 5: Response as at 19/12/2022

Given the low numbers reported by CHO 5 (where the value is <5) and in line with Sections 2 and 37[1] of the FOI Act 2014, I have decided to deny access to the exact figures for reasons of patient confidentiality as any breakdown of numbers (where the value is <5), could inadvertently lead to the identification of individuals.

CHO 6: Response as at 12/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**
3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**

CHO 7: Response as at 08/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**



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3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**

CHO 8: Response as at 23/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**
3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**

CHO 9: Response as at 12/12/2022

1. The number of young persons in CAMHS who are being treated online in a different country **NIL**
2. The countries in which they are being treated **N/A**
3. The way that this consultation was arranged **N/A**
4. The length of time that this has practice has existed **N/A**
5. When these young persons will be treated by a doctor based in Ireland **N/A**

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Ryan
Assistant National Director - Head of Operations
National Mental Health Services