



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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)

14th March 2022

Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 10675/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients that are waiting for a hearing aid by CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- David Cullinane**

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Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 10675/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality Audiology services to all eligible service users. In 2020, there were 36,701 Audiology patients seen by HSE community Audiology services.

COVID-19 has posed significant challenges for many service areas. 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 Services nationally, to The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality Audiology services to all eligible service users.

Please note that we do not report the average current wait times. However, we do report the most recent wait times.

Please see the attached appendices below. Appendix 1 indicates the total number of new patients by CHO referred to community audiology and waiting for hearing assessment and management. Approximately 80% of these will benefit from hearing aids. Appendix 2 details the number of patients which have undergone hearing evaluation and are currently waiting for their hearing aids.

Appendix 1 – Audiology – Patients waiting for hearing assessment and management

Appendix 2 – Audiology – Patients waiting for hearing aids, having undergone hearing evaluation

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán McArt**



General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations