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14th March 2022

**Deputy Pauline Tully
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2**

PQ7897/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the reason that patients presenting to Cavan General Hospital accident and emergency department requesting treatment for mental health issues are being turned away without intervention; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Tully

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the above. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Question, I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position of the HSE.

People who present to the emergency department in Cavan General Hospital requesting mental health services are assessed as follows:

- Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) 9.00 am to 5.00pm staff – medical and/or nursing staff - from the Mental Health service Liaison Psychiatry team based within Cavan General Hospital;
- Monday to Friday after 5.00 pm, weekends and public holidays they will be assessed by the Cavan Monaghan mental health service on-call service – medical and/or nursing staff.

The mental health service assessment informs the intervention offered to the person. Safety advice and emergency contact details for Cavan Monaghan mental health service are also provided.

If you have any further queries on this matter please let me know.

Yours sincerely

**Siobhan McEniff
General Manager
Mental Health Services, CHO1.**