



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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**1<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

**Deputy Róisín Shortall,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.**

**PQ 8227/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults on waiting lists for primary care psychology services per CHO; the number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 9, 9 to 12 and over 12 months, respectively in each of the years 2019 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- Róisín Shortall**

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 8227/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality Psychology services to all eligible service users. In 2021, there were 45,120 patients seen by HSE Primary Care Psychology Services.

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 Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

Please find the attached appendices which contain, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists in Primary Care Psychology in each of the years 2019 to 2020 and to date in 2022. Please note where an individual LHO was unable to return the waiting list data for the month in question that is noted at the bottom of the waiting list table.

Appendix 1 - Psychology - No of Patients aged over 18 years old waiting for treatment - January 2022

Appendix 2 - Psychology - No of Patients aged over 18 years old waiting for treatment - December 2020

Appendix 3 - Psychology - No of Patients aged over 18 years old waiting for treatment - December 2021

Appendix 4 - Psychology - No of Patients aged over 18 years old waiting for treatment - December 2019

I trust this information is of assistance to you.



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seán McArt'.

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