



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig um Cheannasaí Seirbhíse do Chúram Príomhúil  
Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair  
Ascaill Bhaile Choimín,  
Páirc Gnó an Ráithín, Ráithín  
Luimneach  
Teil: 061 483722

Office of the Head of Service for Primary Care  
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare  
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25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**Deputy Michael McNamara**  
Leinster House,  
Kildare St.,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PO 9191/22 – “To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding podiatry services provided by the HSE in Co. Clare; the status of the service going forward; the number of persons on the waiting list for the service; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.**

Dear Deputy McNamara,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I can advise that the HSE Podiatry Service in Co. Clare is provided through five community clinics. These clinics are based in Ennis, Ennistymon, Shannon, Kilrush and Scariff. The podiatry service is provided by two Senior Podiatrists and one Staff Grade Podiatrist.

The Podiatry Services Manager has confirmed that all community clinics are operational. She has also advised that the service remained operational throughout the pandemic and priority patients were seen in a clinical setting. The government restrictions and Infection Prevention Control guidelines had an impact on their capacity to see non-urgent cases which has resulted in a waiting list backlog.

She has also confirmed that there are currently 542 patients waiting to be called for their first appointment and 3,461 patients on the active database.

When the new Chronic Disease Management Hub becomes fully operational in Co. Clare, there will be additional podiatry posts attached to the hub. The majority of patients with Diabetes will then transfer to the Chronic Disease Hub.

I trust this information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mary O'Malley**  
General Manager  
Primary Care

P.P.