



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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](mailto:@hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682  
E: [community.primarycare@hse.ie](mailto:community.primarycare@hse.ie)

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

Deputy Cian O'Callaghan,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 2121/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for a community psychology services appointment by CHO, LHO, age and time waiting; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- Cian O'Callaghan**

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Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 2121/22) 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 is posing 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 Therapy Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists in Primary Care Psychology as of December 2021, which is the latest available data at this time. 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 waiting for treatment - December 2021

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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