



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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25<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Deputy Barry Cowen,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 37470/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons currently awaiting a psychology appointment in primary care in each LHO area in CHO8; the number of these waiting for over a year; the way that this compares to the end of 2021 in each LHO area and each category; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

- Barry Cowen

Dear Deputy Cowen,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 37470/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

It is worth noting that COVID-19 continues to pose 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, the HSE has had to reassess its operation of Community Therapy Services nationally. This has unfortunately had unavoidable negative impacts on waiting lists. The HSE continues to work hard to address these issues and find solutions to the difficulties resulting from the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.

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 community Psychology services.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for Psychology in each LHO area in CHO 8 as of May 2022, which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – Psychology – Number of patients waiting for treatment – May 2022

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Maeve Raeside**

General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations

