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19 July 2022

Deputy Bernard Durkan  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 38110/22: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of children currently awaiting orthodontic treatment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Durkan,

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

The HSE Orthodontic Service is provided in Regional Orthodontic Units. Access to treatment with the HSE Orthodontic Service is limited to those children with the most severe and complex orthodontic treatment needs. Referral for orthodontic assessment is usually made in 6th Class. The Modified Index of Treatment Needs (Modified IOTN) system is used in all regions to determine if a child will be accepted for treatment. There are a number of categories within the Modified IOTN system, and these are used to prioritise care, children whose treatment need is assessed as being in Grade 4 or Grade 5 of the Index are offered treatment with the HSE.

The latest KPI data for the number of patients waiting for Orthodontic Treatment at end Q2 2022 by Regional Orthodontic Unit is detailed in Appendix 1.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

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**Joseph Green**  
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations



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#### Appendix 1: Orthodontic Treatment Waiting Lists by Category Grade Modified IOTN and Wait Band Q2 2022

GRADE 4 Modified IOTN	1-6 months	7-12 months	13-24 months	25-36 months	37 - 48 months	48+ months	Totals
Former East Coast (Loughlinstown)	0.0	1.0	4.0	29.0	62.0	27.0	123
SIMMS Tallaght	26.0	23.0	8.0	20.0	66.0	50.0	193
Midlands	46.0	62.0	31.0	171.0	90.0	277.0	677
DNE	6.0	62.0	92.0	57.0	25.0	105.0	347
South	185.0	135.0	141.0	312.0	213.0	234.0	1220
South East	86.0	99.0	99.0	133.0	154.0	352.0	923
Mid Western	57.0	52.0	30.0	97.0	75.0	10.0	321
North West	20.0	37.0	47.0	62.0	67.0	35.0	268
Western	215.0	135.0	7.0	300.0	74.0	0.0	731
	<b>641</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>1181</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>4803</b>

<b>GRADE 5 Modified IOTN</b>	<b>1-6 months</b>	<b>7-12 months</b>	<b>13-24 months</b>	<b>25-36 months</b>	<b>37 - 48 months</b>	<b>48+ months</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Former East Coast (Loughlinstown)	1.0	6.0	37.0	69.0	86.0	129.0	328
SIMMS Tallaght	60.0	38.0	30.0	125.0	86.0	38.0	377
Midlands	63.0	53.0	7.0	23.0	10.0	24.0	180
DNE	15.0	105.0	178.0	160.0	225.0	279.0	962
South	209.0	185.0	153.0	397.0	237.0	107.0	1288
South East	126.0	149.0	148.0	172.0	263.0	536.0	1394
Mid Western	78.0	89.0	48.0	107.0	162.0	100.0	584
North West	95.0	93.0	68.0	65.0			321
Western	260.0	149.0	51.0	230.0	46.0	0.0	736
	<b>907</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>1348</b>	<b>1115</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>6170</b>