



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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09<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 41235/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on waiting lists for primary care by service type and by CHO; the number for each month of 2021 and for each month to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- David Cullinane**

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Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 41235/22) 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 Primary Care Therapy services to all eligible service users.

Please find the attached appendices, which contain, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for Child and Adolescent Audiology, Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Ophthalmology, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy (Initial Assessment), Speech and Language Therapy (Initial Therapy), and Speech and Language Therapy (Further Therapy), by CHO, as of June 2022, which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – Audiology – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old Patients waiting for treatment June 2022

Appendix 2 – Dietetics – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old Patients waiting for treatment June 2022

Appendix 3 – Occupational Therapy – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old Patients Awaiting First Time Assessment June 2022

Appendix 4 – Ophthalmology – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old Patients waiting for treatment June 2022

Appendix 5 – Physiotherapy – Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old Patients waiting for Assessment June 2022

Appendix 6 – Podiatry – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old Patients waiting for treatment June 2022

Appendix 7 – Psychology – Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old Patients waiting for treatment June 2022



Appendix 8 – Speech and Language Therapy – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old patients waiting Initial Assessment – June 2022

Appendix 9 – Speech and Language Therapy – Number of 0-17 Years & 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Therapy – June 2022

Appendix 10 – Speech and Language Therapy – Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Further Therapy – June 2022

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Seán McArt'.

**Seán McArt**

General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations