



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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
@hselive

T: 01 6352209/2682
E: community.primarycare@hse.ie

August 8th 2022

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

PQ 41249/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on CHO waiting lists for counselling and psychotherapy on initial assessment, initial therapy intervention and further therapy intervention lists by CHO in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- David Cullinane

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 41249/22) 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 Counselling services to all eligible service users. In 2021, there were 45,120 patients seen by HSE community Counselling services.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for Primary Care Psychology as of June 2022, which is the latest data available at this time. Please note counselling data is captured within the psychology waiting list.

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

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations