



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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7th April 2022

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

PQ 11876/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on counselling in primary care waiting lists by CHO at the end of 2021 and at the latest available data point broken down age and by the length of waiting time by age in tabular form.

- 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 11876/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The spread of COVID-19 has posed 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.

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.

Please find the attached appendices which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists in Psychology as of December 2021 and February 2022. The psychology waiting list in Primary Care includes those waiting for counselling appointments in Primary Care. 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

Appendix 2 - Psychology - No of Patients waiting for treatment - February 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