



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Mark Ward.
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

29th March 2022

PQ Number: 12523/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the status and cost of developing telemedicine and virtual medicare for geographical areas of low density for persons with eating disorders; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The NCPED aims to establish an ED network (8 adult teams and 8 CAMHS teams) in accordance with the agreed Model of Care 2018. There are currently 3 eating disorders (ED) specialist teams in operation, 2 CAMHS teams serving Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CHO4) and Community Healthcare Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow (CHO7) and an adult team in Community Healthcare East (CHO6). These multidisciplinary teams provide specialist eating disorder assessment and treatment in the community and are the foundations of delivering quality eating disorder care across the stepped model of care.

Since the onset of the pandemic Telehealth has been rapidly adopted and has enabled continued access to specialist eating disorder teams. These teams continued to provide ongoing care throughout the pandemic. With Over 500 therapy sessions have been delivered to date. The telehealth solution has allowed greater access to specialist care and is expected to be used beyond the pandemic.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive

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