



**1<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

**Deputy Róisín Shortall,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.**

**PQ 12981/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for community psychology services by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12982/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for counselling services by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12979/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for audiology by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12980/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for podiatry by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12984/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for dietetics by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12972/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for speech and language therapy by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12973/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for physiotherapy by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12976/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for occupational therapy by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**PQ 12978/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for ophthalmology by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form.**

**- Róisín Shortall**

---

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 12982/22) 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.

Please find the attached appendices, which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting list for individuals in community psychology/counselling, audiology, podiatry, dietetics, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and ophthalmology as of January 2022. This is the latest available data at this time. 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.

Please note, in some cases, breakdown of data by age is unavailable.

Appendix 1 – Psychology – Number of Patients waiting for treatment January 2022

Appendix 2 – Audiology – Number of Patients waiting for treatment January 2022

Appendix 3 – Podiatry – Number of Patients waiting for treatment January 2022

Appendix 4 – Dietetics – Number of Patients waiting for treatment January 2022

Appendix 5 – Speech and Language Therapy – Total number of Patients awaiting initial assessment January 2022

Appendix 6 – Speech and Language Therapy – Total number of Patients awaiting Initial Therapy January 2022

Appendix 7 – Speech and Language Therapy – Total number of patients awaiting Further Therapy January 2022

Appendix 8 – Physiotherapy – Number of patients waiting for assessment January 2022

Appendix 9 – Occupational Therapy – Number of Patients Awaiting First Time Assessment January 2022

Appendix 10 – Ophthalmology – Number of patients waiting for treatment January 2022

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seán McArt'.

**Seán McArt**

General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations

