



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Holly Cairns.
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

11th April 2022

PQ Number: 17402/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the details of progress made in addressing the National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders Goals - Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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.

Most people can and do get better from eating disorders. While a small number of people benefit from more intensive treatment through day programmes or inpatient care, the most effective treatment setting is in the community. Dedicated community-based eating disorder services, where multidisciplinary teams have specialist training, can provide evidence-based care and treatment.

In January 2018 the HSE published a National Model of Care for Eating Disorders (MOC) in partnership with College of Psychiatrists' of Ireland and Bodywhys. The MOC is the blueprint for the HSE to roll out specialist eating disorder services in Ireland to address the current unmet need for specialist eating disorder service within HSE. Outpatient specialist care is considered to be the most effective treatment setting for most people with eating disorders. The MOC has a core focus on developing regional community based specialist eating disorder services provided by skilled multidisciplinary teams.

Further information can be found on the MOC here:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/mental-health/eating-disorders/moc/hse-eating-disorder-services-model-of-care.pdf>

The clinical programme aims to establish an Eating Disorder network (eight adult teams and eight CAMHS teams) in accordance with the agreed Model of Care 2018. Currently, there are three teams in operation: two CAMHS teams (one serving Cork/Kerry Community Healthcare - CHO4 and the other serving Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare - CHO7) and an adult team in Community Healthcare East (CHO6). These multidisciplinary teams provide specialist eating disorder assessment and treatment in the community.

Funding was made available in 2021 to progress the recruitment of three additional Eating Disorder teams in CHO4 (adult), CHO9 (adult) and CHO2 (CAMHS). Following the recent budget Minister Butler released a statement that additional funding would be provided in 2022 for 3 additional teams.

The NCPED goals for 2022 as listed on our webpage are below. We will continue to progress full achievement during the year. A brief update has been provided on each.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue regular meetings of National Oversight Group to support implementation of the Model of Care; <p>The group meets monthly.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance the development of the Eating Disorder Hub Network through the recruitment of three additional specialist community Eating Disorder Teams across the HSE in line with the Model of Care; total of 9 teams by end of 2022 <p>Recruitment and set up of new teams is ongoing. The NCPED is working with each CHO to achieve this target.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and pilot day programme strategy; <p>This is under consideration by national group at present.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the ED data set and publish 2021 annual data from ED teams; <p>This data was published on 1st March 2022 on our webpage.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish research group with academic membership on the National Oversight Group; <p>This target is ongoing.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update and review the ED Self Care app to ensure reliable valid sources of information readily available for people with eating disorders and their carers; <p>The NCPED is working with Bodywhys to scope out the requirements for any review and update of the app.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver national training on assessment and management of eating disorders in acute medical settings - in collaboration with National Clinical Programmes for Emergency medicine, Acute medicine and Paediatrics <p>This training was delivered online in webinar format on 2nd March, almost 600 clinicians registered to attend. The feedback was very positive.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue our formal and integrated working relationships with our partner agency BodyWhys and the College of Psychiatry Ireland; <p>This is ongoing work.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate training, education and supervision with agreed Model of Care. <p>This work is ongoing.</p>

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
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