



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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09/06/2022

Deputy James Lawless
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 26555/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of rural general practitioners in County Kildare; The way that this compares per head of population to other counties; and if he will make a Statement on the matter. -James Lawless

Dear Deputy Lawless,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

There are currently 93 contracted General Medical Services (GMS) GP's with practice addresses in Kildare, Unfortunately this list is not broken down into rural and non-rural. The HSE do not limit the number of GP's that are able to take out a GMS contract. Once the GP meets the qualifications set out in the contract.

As a GP is contractor, they can set up a practice in any location they wish. When a GP with a list of patients of over 300 retires, the post is advertised with the hope a new GP will take on the GMS list of patients in that area. A GP can hold up to 2,200 GMS patients on their list not including private patients. As of the 2016 census, the population of Kildare was just over 220,000. The 93 GP's have the allowed combined limit of 204,600 GMS patients.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Farrelly

**Interim Head of Service, Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare**

