



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,  
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.  
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,  
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,  
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682  
E: [community.primarycare@hse.ie](mailto:community.primarycare@hse.ie)

29<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Deputy Dessie Ellis,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 27996/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that are currently waiting to be allocated a wheelchair; the number of wheelchairs that are allocated each month; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

- Dessie Ellis

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Dear Deputy Ellis,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 27996/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The National Primary Care Office do not routinely collect data on the number of adults and children awaiting the delivery of wheelchairs.

The waiting time for a wheelchair is very dependent on the type of wheelchair requested. For standard wheelchairs, which CHOs keep as stock items, the wait time from clinical assessment and approval to service user receiving the item is normally no more than one to two weeks throughout the country. For bespoke and powered wheelchairs, the wait time is longer and can be up to twelve weeks. This wait time is largely dictated by the time needed for the supplier to manufacture and deliver the bespoke items.

The waiting times for assessment vary across the CHOs and are impacted by a number of factors including the number of patients waiting to be assessed at any point in time. It is difficult to be more specific as the data is not routinely collected by specific items of equipment.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán McArt**  
General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations