



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Primary Care  
South East Community Healthcare  
HSE Offices, Lacken  
Dublin Road  
Kilkenny

Telephone +353 56 7784100

8<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 54474/22**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists in each municipal district in County Wexford who are currently on the dental treatment service scheme.

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**PQ 54475/22**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists in each municipal district in County Wexford who are currently accepting new patients with medical cards; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which were submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

*I have reviewed the matter and the following outlines the current position.*

Persons with medical card eligibility and other eligible persons can access dental treatment through the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS). All medical card holders are entitled to specific dental treatments: dental examination, two fillings in each calendar year, extractions as necessary.

The Municipal Districts in Co. Wexford include Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District, the Borough District of Wexford, New Ross Municipal District, Enniscorthy Municipal District, Bunclody Municipal District and Rosslare Municipal District.

Bunclody Municipal District and Rosslare Municipal District do not currently have any dentists participating in the DTSS.

Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District – the following dentist is currently participating in the DTSS:

TITLE	F/NAME	S/NAME	ADDRESS/1	ADDRESS/2	ADDRESS/3	ADDRESS/4
Dr.	John	Kinsella	Bridge Dental Surgery	Coach Road	Gorey	Co. Wexford

Wexford Town Municipal District – the following dentists are currently participating in the DTSS:

TITLE	F/NAME	S/NAME	ADDRESS/1	ADDRESS/2	ADDRESS/3	ADDRESS/4
Dr.	Ronan	Cuddihy	All Smiles Dental Practice	27, St. John's Gate Street		Wexford
Dr.	Blaithin	Dwyer	No. 1 Dempsey's Terrace	Peters Square		Wexford
Dr.	Rory	Dwyer	No. 1 Dempsey's Terrace	Peters Square		Wexford
Dr.	Michael	Geraghty	14, Henrietta St.	Crescent Mall		Wexford
Dr.	Ailbhe	Murphy	10, Bride Place			Wexford
Dr.	Thomas J.	Murphy	10, Bride Place			Wexford

New Ross Municipal District – the following dentists are currently participating in the DTSS:

TITLE	F/NAME	S/NAME	ADDRESS/1	ADDRESS/2	ADDRESS/3	ADDRESS/4
Dr.	Thomas	Corkery	Dillon Dental Clinic	1, Priory Place	New Ross	Co. Wexford
Dr.	Adrian J.	Dillon	Dillon Dental Clinic	1, Priory Place	New Ross	Co. Wexford

Enniscorthy Municipal District – the following dentists are currently participating in the DTSS:

TITLE	F/NAME	S/NAME	ADDRESS/1	ADDRESS/2	ADDRESS/3	ADDRESS/4
Dr.	Niamh	McCarthy	3, Parnell Road		Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford
Dr.	Cian	Lambert	6, Lymington Road	Templeshannon	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford
Dr.	Brian	O'Leary	6, Lymington Road	Templeshannon	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford
Dr.	Andrew Frank	Rowe	Court Street Dental Centre	31, Court Street	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford
Dr.	Roland Stephen	Woods	Court Street Dental Centre	31, Court Street	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford

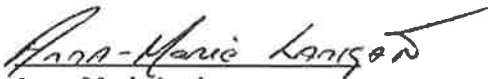
Unfortunately there is no pathway for the HSE to ensure Dentists accept medical cardholders as patients. The HSE issues the contracts and requests yearly registration documentation but the HSE cannot direct a dentist to offer an appointment to a medical card patient. It is a matter for the individual dentist to decide the clinical priority of patients reviewed within their surgeries i.e. existing or new patients. Therefore the HSE would not have access to the number of dentists accepting new patients with medical cards. The DTSS list is updated regularly following the annual request for documentation for current registration.

A recent Circular (Circular No. 13/22) was issued to Dentists informing them of changes and fee adjustments/increases effective from 1st May 2022 which may increase the numbers of dentists applying for a DTSS contract.

There are particular issues with the HSE Dental Service for adults i.e. DTSS. This is a nationwide problem and not unique to Co. Wexford. A number of private general dental practitioners (GDP) have resigned from the scheme and many general dental practitioners still operating the scheme have restricted access and may only be seeing existing patients. SECH understands that matter is currently being raised and considered by the Department of Health and the HSE at a national level.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Marie Lanigan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Anna Marie Lanigan**  
**Head of Service-Primary Care/Assistant National Director**  
**South East Community Healthcare**