



Oifig um Cheannasaí Seirbhíse do Chúram Príomhúil
Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair
Ascaill Bhaile Choimín,
Páirc Gnó an Ráithín, Ráithín
Luimneach
Teil: 061 483722

Office of the Head of Service for Primary Care
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare
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21st October 2022

Deputy Michael McNamara
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare St., Dublin 2

Re: PO 48725/22 – “To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting list times at the lymphoedema specialist clinic in Co. Clare; if consideration will be given to increasing staffing at the facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy McNamara,

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.

I can advise that the table below provides a breakdown of the patients currently on the waiting list to be called for their first appointment.

Patient priority classification	No. of patients on waiting list	Waiting time for patients to be seen
Priority 1 (P1)	8	0-7 weeks
Priority 2 (P2)	3	0-12 weeks
Priority 3 (P3)	Nil	Nil

I can advise that there are currently 132 patients on the active caseload for the service. The duration of a course of treatment varies from patient to patient, but an intensive phase of treatment takes six weeks and is then followed by maintenance treatment. All patients require a six monthly review, therefore, the active caseload will increase year on year.

The Director of Public Health Nursing has advised that following a meeting at national level, a proposal has been submitted by Ms. Kay Morris, Project Manager for Lymphoedema Services to the office of the Enhanced Community Care Programme and Primary Care Contracts to increase the staffing by an additional 0.5 WTE Lymphoedema Therapist at the clinic. We are currently awaiting the outcome of this submission.

I trust this information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Costello
Head of Service
Primary Care