



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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26th October 2022

Deputy Patrick Costello,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 51483/22 – To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of members of multidisciplinary teams by specialty who are supporting young persons affected by long-Covid in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Patrick Costello

Dear Deputy Costello,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 51483/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE Interim Model of Care (MoC) for Long Covid was finalised in September 2021. On the back of this, an expert subgroup was set up under the office of the CCO to develop this MoC and was led by the National Lead for Integrated Care, with input from different stakeholders. Extensive literature reviews were conducted in relation to the prevalence of long Covid, risk factors, symptoms profile and trajectory and approaches to treatment.

There was a paucity of research in children at the time, with initial reports indicating that children recover quickly from Covid and that the incidence of Long Covid was very low in these populations. While research is developing within this area, evidence remains limited by the low quality of studies, recent reports continue to indicate the incidence of Long Covid is low in children and young adults.

Best available evidence supports the provision of care to children by their GPs and if necessary, by general paediatricians, who work in multi-disciplinary teams and have specialist teams to refer to e.g. Paediatric respiratory, neurology etc. The HSE can advise, that currently, this is the Model of Care for children and young adults that has been adopted in Ireland.

The National Clinical Programme for Paediatrics and the National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead (NCAGL) for Children and Young People will continue to work closely with the HSE and Long COVID team to review evidence and support access to care.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Seán McArt'.

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations