

1st November 2022

Deputy Thomas Gould
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 52154/22

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of full-time clinical pharmacists that are employed by HSE in CHO4 in the years of 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form.”

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response.

In compiling the response below I have consulted with my Head of Service colleagues to ascertain the position within their respective Care Groups.

Mental Health Services

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) Mental Health Services directly employ pharmacists in St Stephen’s Hospital. The WTE breakdown is hereunder:

Approved Centre	Pharmacist WTE December 2021	Pharmacist WTE September 2022
St Stephen’s Hospital, Glanmire	2.3 (Including 1.0 WTE agency locum)	1.5 (including 0.2 WTE agency locum)

For other Approved Mental Health Centres within CKCH which are co-located with an acute hospital the pharmacy service is provided by the acute hospital’s Pharmacy Departments. This is the case in St Michaels Unit (Mercy University Hospital), South Lee AAMHU (Cork University Hospital), Centre for Mental Health Care & Recovery Bantry (Bantry General Hospital), and Sliabh Mis (University Hospital Kerry).

In other community residences and approved centres within Mental Health Services, pharmacy input is generally provided by a local pharmacy and/or through a sessional arrangement. Urgent advice may also be obtained through the Acute Hospital Pharmacists.

Primary Care:

Within Cork Kerry Community Healthcare we do not have any Clinical Pharmacists working in Primary Care. Our pharmacists do not go out and meet patients and advise in relation to medication and prescriptions in the way a clinical pharmacist would.

Older Persons

Hospital	Grade	WTE Dec '21	WTE Sep '22
Macroom Community Hospital	Pharmacist	0.00	0.11
St. Finbarr's Hospital	Pharmacist, Senior	1.31	1.21
Skibbereen Community Hospital	Pharmacist	0.00	0.11
Caherciveen Community Hospital	Pharmacist, Senior	1.59	1.62
Listowel Community Hospital	Pharmacist	0.29	0.30
St Columbanus Community Hospital	Pharmacist	0.53	0.30

Residential units who do not employ a HSE clinical pharmacist directly undertake a tendering process to secure an appropriate out-sourced pharmacy service.

Disability Services

Disability Services in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare do not employ clinical pharmacists.

Quality and Safety Department

Post	2021	2022
Senior Antimicrobial Pharmacist	1 WTE	1 WTE*

Kind regards,



Mr Kevin Morrison
A/Head of Service
Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare