



Michael Moriarty,
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14th September, 2022.

Ms. Holly Cairns, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref: 45137/22

"To ask the Minister for Health the steps that he is taking to provide chiropody services for public patients in CHO4."

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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

Podiatry Services are available to all patients eligible in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CHO4). In 2021 14,453 appointments were provided between Jan and Dec 2021 by the Podiatry Service.

Podiatry services are provided to those patients referred who are at greatest risk of developing foot complications. These complications often develop secondary to underlying medical conditions which are known to pre dispose them to developing serious foot complications, such as Diabetes, Rheumatoid Arthritis and Neurological conditions which can be debilitating and life changing for the sufferer. Keeping people well and living independently as well as reducing the reliance on Acute Hospital services is our goal.

Recruitment and retention of staff has been very challenging in recent months with huge organisational and operational changes being implemented. As part of the Enhanced Community Care programme there are a number of vacancies across Cork and Kerry. Recruitment campaigns continue at a local, national and international level to fill these vacancies in CHO4 with a robust communication campaign to maximise out on attracting eligible candidates

However, we continue to provide a quality service to as many patients as we can within the current resources we have.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Moriarty
Acting Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

