



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,
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Deputy Pa Daly.
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

27th September 2022

PQ Number: 46805/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the status of the State-wide review and prescription audit for CAMHS patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pa Daly

Dear Deputy Daly,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

By way of update, the Report on the Look-Back Review into Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in South Kerry, also referred to as the 'Maskey Report', was published on the 26th January, 2022.

Following this the HSE stood up a National Oversight Group to oversee, monitor and report on the implementation of the Maskey Report. The National Oversight Group is jointly chaired by the Chief Operations Officer and Chief Clinical Officer and provides regular progress reports to the HSE Board's Safety and Quality Committee.

The Maskey Report contains 35 recommendations covering a broad range of areas such as re-establishing trust in CAMHS, governance of the service, delivery of clinical services, improved clinical practice and the use of information and communication technology to support the delivery of services.

In order to provide assurance to those who use CAMHS, the HSE's National Oversight Group commissioned a number of national audits one of which was in relation to prescribing practice in CAMHS.

Independently chaired by Dr Collette Halpin, an expert team has been established to conduct an audit of prescribing practice in CAMHS. Membership of the expert group also includes Dr Imelda Whyte, nominated by the College of Psychiatry, and Dr Suzanne McCarthy, Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacy Practice, UCC. The expert team is administratively supported by the HSE's National Centre for Clinical Audit and Community Operations. A pilot has been completed with four CHO areas and a series of webinars have been conducted. Analysis of the Pilot data has commenced and is near completion. The national audit



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commenced in all CAMHS teams on the 14th July 2022, with a high response rate to date. It is anticipated that full data analysis will commence on 19th September 2022 and the Expert Team expects to report on the findings in Q4 2022.

The Maskey implementation team is working very closely with the Implementation Group for Sharing the Vision, to ensure that we are adopting a truly systemic approach to changes within CAMHS and are avoiding duplication.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hennessy".

Sarah Hennessy
General Manager
National Mental Health Services