



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
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27<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Deputy Murphy,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 10034/23 – To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 755 of 14 February 2023, if he will clarify which of the consultants listed in the HSE's reply accept referrals for children under 16 years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

- Paul Murphy

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Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 10034/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Access to Post Acute and Long COVID clinics are limited to those who are 16 years of age or older. As previously stated, available evidence supports the provision of care to children younger than 16 years of age by their GPs and if necessary, by paediatricians, who work in multi-disciplinary teams and have specialist teams to refer to e.g. paediatric respiratory, neurology etc. In a recent review by HIQA, commissioned to evaluate and further inform the development of both adult and paediatric Long COVID services, it was outlined that the model of care in Ireland is broadly consistent with those outlined internationally.

The HSE also wishes to advise that the National Clinical Programme for Paediatrics and the National Clinical Advisors and Group Leads (NCAGL) for children and young people will continue to work closely with the HSE Long-Covid team to review evidence and support access to care.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán McArt**  
General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations