

23rd June, 2023

Mr. Thomas Gould, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 27798/23

"To ask the Minister for Health the average wait, from time of prescription to allocation of funding, by the CHO4 Resource Allocation Group."

Dear Deputy Gould,

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.

Applications for HSE Resource Allocation Group (RAG) may be made via a prescribing therapist or nurse based on clinical assessment of the service user. Following complete clinical assessment prescriptions are submitted to Resource Allocation Group (RAG) for consideration at the next RAG meeting. The HSE Resource Allocation Group (RAG) usually meets monthly and all Medical and Surgical Aid and Appliance prescriptions (new and waitlisted) presented to the group continue to be reviewed. Funding, which is finite, is allocated to purchase items that are identified as highest priority taking all the circumstances of each individual concerned into account. The HSE are only in a position to purchase equipment within available resources and clinical demands on the budget remain high.

It is not possible to give an average wait time on receipt of an aids and appliance application as they all vary depending on for example; seating assessment, fitting, supply chain issues etc. I do wish to advise that the majority of the highest rated items are progressed at each RAG meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Priscilla Lynch
Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare