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15 March 2023

Deputy Verona Murphy
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 10309/23: To ask the Minister for Health the number of students at primary school level that received dental screening, in second, fourth and sixth class, under the school dental screening programme in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, by CHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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

The HSE Dental Services are provided through 17 Dental Areas, all of which continue to provide routine services. The dental service prioritises treatment for people with special care needs, those who are medically compromised and provides emergency care for all eligible patients.

These services are delivered with a strong preventive ethos in order to minimise the incidence of dental disease in vulnerable populations. In particular this preventive approach involves the delivery of personalised oral health promotion for children and people with special care needs. Children are seen at ages that correspond with dental developmental milestones to identify opportunities for timely preventive interventions such as fissure sealants and the need for restorative treatment, as well as monitoring the eruption of the permanent dentition including possible orthodontic anomalies requiring referral for HSE orthodontic assessment.

Appendix 1 details KPI data for the Dental Service by Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) and Local Health Office (LHO) end 2019 to end 2022. The reported metric is the number of new oral health patients in target groups attending for scheduled assessment.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Green', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Joseph Green
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations



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Appendix 1: No. of new Oral Health patients in target groups (1st/2nd, 4th and 6th class) attending for scheduled assessment (2019 – 2022)

CHO	LHO	Q4 2019	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	End December 2022
National Total		151,392	55,324	82,494	99,367
CHO 1	Total	19,266	9,129	13,800	13,637
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	5,116	3,571	3,135	4,250
CHO 1	Donegal	8,321	2,659	5,286	7,187
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	5,829	2,899	5,379	2,200
CHO 2	Total	12,145	2,904	6,156	7,073
CHO 2	Galway	4,317	531	1,486	895
CHO 2	Mayo	3,690	1,264	2,057	2,027
CHO 2	Roscommon	4,138	1,109	2,613	4,151
CHO 3	Total	11,632	3,385	4,153	6,125

CHO 3	Clare	4,148	1,481	1,307	1,784
CHO 3	Limerick	2,544	963	1,283	1,528
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	4,940	941	1,563	2,813
CHO 4	Total	20,641	8,086	8,552	15,350
CHO 4	Kerry	3,419	1,277	1,188	2,344
CHO 4	North Cork	4,105	1,710	1,494	3,252
CHO 4	North Lee	5,175	2,027	2,791	4,725
CHO 4	South Lee	6,369	2,415	2,233	3,763
CHO 4	West Cork	1,573	657	846	1,266
CHO 5	Total	18,638	6,621	11,973	12,484
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	4,992	1,690	3,418	3,075
CHO 5	South Tipperary	6,239	2,485	3,737	4,259
CHO 5	Waterford	3,919	1,608	2,972	2,909
CHO 5	Wexford	3,488	838	1,846	2,241
CHO 6	Total	8,143	4,054	6,743	5,678
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire/ Dublin South East/Wicklow	8,143	4,054	6,743	5,678
CHO 7	Total	25,180	9,534	12,059	15,151
CHO 7	Dublin South City	3,175	1,627	2,363	3,456

CHO 7	Dublin South West	5,242	2,136	2,860	2,812
CHO 7	Dublin West	5,420	2,014	3,561	4,446
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	11,343	3,757	3,275	4,437
CHO 8	Total	17,842	3,829	6,124	8,581
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	3,154	720	2,188	1,902
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	4,317	875	2,633	2,212
CHO 8	Louth	5,547	1,100	709	1,812
CHO 8	Meath	4,824	1,134	594	2,655
CHO 9	Total	17,905	7,782	12,999	15,288
CHO 9	Dublin North	7,419	2,456	2,828	4,562
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	2,676	2,003	2,561	2,845
CHO 9	Dublin North West	7,810	3,323	7,610	7,881