



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Ref: PQ 12415/23

04th April 2023

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Cullinane

I refer to your recent PQ which has been forwarded to me for attention.

PQ 12415/23: To ask the Minister for Health the number of paediatric orthopaedic appointments, by appointment type, cancelled in January and February 2019-2022, inclusive, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:

I have followed up with Children's Health Ireland (CHI) and set out here-under the information that you require. Please see accompanying notes for each site below the tables.

Please note that data includes rescheduled appointments. Appointments are rescheduled for a number of reasons, some are hospital initiated such as when a Consultant is on leave or capacity is needed for urgent cases (eg post operation/infection) etc. Other appointments are rescheduled at the request of the parent or guardian for example if the child is unwell, away on holidays, has exams etc.

Rescheduled appointments are scheduled for the next available date based on the prioritisation of the appointment.

CHI endeavour to avoid cancelling and rescheduling appointments however there are circumstances outside of our control which require us to do so in some instances.



CHI at Crumlin:

	New	Return	Total
January 2019	47	299	346
February 2019	70	277	347
January 2020	2	16	18
February 2020	1	15	16
January 2021	3	31	34
February 2021	3	17	20
January 2022	2	33	35
February 2022	2	50	52

*Please note; Crumlin data does not include Crumlin activity performed in Connolly

Data in above table is hospital initiated cancellations and reschedules.

Reasons for cancellations include Consultant not available, clinic is overbooked and rescheduling is required to make room for urgent or post-operative patients that need to be seen as a priority. Clinic numbers sometimes need to be reduced if there is not sufficient NCHD cover to support a full clinic.

In January and February 2019 the number of cancellations were higher due to the Nurses Strike at that time.

Cancelled = Outpatient department (OPD) appointment was cancelled and not rescheduled

Rescheduled = OPD was cancelled and rescheduled

CHI at Temple Street:

	New	Return	Total
January 2019	34	245	279
February 2019	80	341	421
January 2020	16	224	240
February 2020	21	186	207
January 2021	65	391	456
February 2021	26	196	222
January 2022	74	219	293



February 2022	35	172	207
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Cancelled = OPD was cancelled and not rescheduled

Rescheduled = OPD was cancelled and rescheduled

Cancelled appointments are those initiated by the hospital.

Rescheduled appointments include appointments cancelled by parents or guardians as well as those that are hospital initiated.

CHI at Connolly:

	New	Return	Total
January 2019	0	0	0
February 2019	0	0	0
January 2020	3	2	5
February 2020	4	5	9
January 2021	5	128	133
February 2021	15	87	102
January 2022	10	18	28
February 2022	17	119	136

Cancelled = OPD was cancelled and not rescheduled

Rescheduled = OPD was cancelled and rescheduled

Cancelled appointments are those initiated by the hospital.

Rescheduled appointments include appointments cancelled by parents or guardians as well as those that are hospital initiated.

CHI at Tallaght:

	New	Return	Total
January 2019	6	17	23
February 2019	5	16	21
January 2020	13	20	33



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February 2020	6	20	26
January 2021	0	0	0
February 2021	0	0	0
January 2022	0	0	0
February 2022	0	0	0

Please note that CHI at Tallaght is facilitating Crumlin Orthopaedic Trauma clinics. CHI at Tallaght has no orthopaedic clinics. Crumlin data for cancelled clinics includes CHI at Tallaght statistics.

Yours sincerely

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