

5<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

Mr. Pádraig O'Sullivan, T.D.,  
 Dáil Éireann,  
 Dublin 2

**PQ ref 14253/23**

**"To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on the physiotherapy first-time assessment waiting list in CHO4 at the latest available date; the number waiting one, two, and three years, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter."**

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

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.

#### **Primary Care Services**

Referrals are prioritised as they are received with priority given to babies under 18 months referred for concerns regarding their gross motor development that might impact at a later stage on the acquisition of fine motor skills such as speech; hand development and coordination. Interventions for this cohort are time sensitive for this group due to the rapid acquisition of skills in the average baby/toddler/child. Based on this there are a few waiting categories and those who are impacted least by lack of paediatric physiotherapy input wait longer on the waiting list. Referrals to a paediatric physiotherapist have increased year on year with complexity also increasing secondary to the set-up of Childrens' Disability Network teams (CDNTs) whose threshold for complexity has increased.

	CKCH
No. of children on the Physiotherapy first-time assessment waiting list in CHO4 at the latest available date	1258
No. of children on the Physiotherapy first-time assessment waiting list in CHO4 waiting 1 Year	165
No. of children on the Physiotherapy first-time assessment waiting list in CHO4 waiting 2 Years	Not available
No. of children on the Physiotherapy first-time assessment waiting list in CHO4 waiting 3 Years	Not available

#### **Disability Services**

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare Disability Services is not in a position to provide the data in the manner requested in the above question.

Please see below table which outlines the current caseload of children and young adults. We are unable to provide a breakdown of data on those awaiting assessment as at any one time a number of children may be in receipt of some interventions but may also be waiting for assessment for other interventions and without ICT systems we are unable to provide that level of breakdown at this time.

**Table 1. CKCH Children Disability Network Team (CDNT) data as at the end of February, 2023.**

<b>CDNT</b>	<b>Total Caseload as at 28/02/23</b>
CDNT 1 – North Kerry	404
CDNT 2 – West Kerry	419
CDNT 3 – South Kerry	587
CDNT 4 – Northwest Cork	693
CDNT 5 – Northeast Cork	420
CDNT 6 – East Central Cork	637
CDNT 7 – East Cork City	602
CDNT 8 – Central Cork	602
CDNT 9 – North Cork City & Blarney	549
CDNT 10 – West Cork	844
CDNT 11 – South East Cork City	633
CDNT 12 – West Central Cork	780
CDNT 13 – Carrigaline, Kinsale, Bandon	781
CDNT 14 – South Cork City	483
Total	8438

**Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services**

CAMHS does not provide a physiotherapy service. Children requiring a service can access the service provided by Primary Care.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to me.

Yours sincerely,



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**Gabrielle O'Keeffe**  
**Interim Chief Officer**

