



National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead Mental Health

Health Service Executive
Dr Steevens Hospital,
Dublin 8,
DO8 W2A8.

Email: ncagl.mentalhealth@hse.ie

Deputy Mark Ward.
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

06th July 2023

PQ Number: 23596/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients referred from emergency Departments to community mental health teams in the past 12 months per hospital, and the average wait time for an appointment with the community mental health teams, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

In 2016 a Model of Care was published by the HSE. It established a clinical framework to ensure that any person who presents to the ED following self-harm or with suicide-related ideation receives a compassionate, empathic, validating response, and a therapeutic assessment and intervention from a suitably trained mental health professional; that every effort is made to ensure that a family member or supportive adult is involved in assessment and safety planning, and that they are followed up and linked to appropriate next care.

The Updated MOC document published in February 2022, is built on this learning of implementation of the NCP. It sets out comprehensive, detailed and specific pathways of care that reflect the diverse needs of particular service user groups and the broad range of contexts in which self-harm and suicidal ideation occurs. While continuing to maintain and further improve the NCP within the acute hospital EDs, the updated NCPSH MOC now extends into the community

Data is collected from each 24/7 emergency department (ED) by CNS on the number of referrals to NCPSH clinicians from ED staff with suicidal ideation and self-harm in each month. Our data collection system is not automated and is inputted by clinicians into pre-specified electronic templates. No patient can be identified in the templates as only anonymised presentation information is recorded. There are gaps in the data when clinicians are on various types of leave and not replaced.



National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead Mental Health

Health Service Executive
Dr Steevens Hospital,
Dublin 8,
DO8 W2A8.

Email: ncagl.mentalhealth@hse.ie

The table below shows the available data on the number of referrals to Community Mental Health Teams by hospital for 2022. The NCP SHI does not collect waiting times for an appointment in CMHT.

Table: Number of referrals from NCP SHI to CMHT by Hospital 2022

| Hospital Name | CMHT, General Adult MH | Homebase Treatment Team CMHT |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Beaumont Hospital | 216 | 3 |
| Cavan General Hospital | 84 | 18 |
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown | 448 | 1 |
| Cork University Hospital | 95 | 39 |
| Galway University Hospitals | 650 | 0 |
| Letterkenny University Hospital | 74 | 1 |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital | 76 | 1 |
| Mayo University Hospital | 131 | 0 |
| Mercy University Hospital Cork | 127 | 78 |
| Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar | 46 | 0 |
| Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise | 26 | 0 |
| Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore | 26 | 0 |
| Naas General Hospital | 304 | 0 |
| Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda | 71 | 12 |
| Our Lady s Hospital Navan | 12 | 1 |
| Portiuncula University Hospital | 96 | 9 |
| Sligo University Hospital | 229 | 4 |
| South Tipperary General Hospital | 63 | 52 |
| St Luke s Hospital Kilkenny | 82 | 97 |
| St. Vincent s University Hospital | 486 | 0 |
| University Hospital Kerry | 184 | 0 |
| University Hospital Waterford | 220 | 0 |
| University Hospital, Limerick | 481 | 0 |
| Wexford General Hospital | 64 | 0 |
| St. James s Hospital | 110 | 1 |
| Total | 4401 | 317 |
| 11% of multiple referrals further included CMHT referrals - for all hospitals in 2022 | | |



National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead Mental Health

Health Service Executive
Dr Steevens Hospital,
Dublin 8,
DO8 W2A8.

Email: ncagl.mentalhealth@hse.ie

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amir Niazi', on a light blue rectangular background.

Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive