



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682
E: community.primarycare@hse.ie

6th June 2023

Deputy Ryan,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 26364/23 To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently waiting for an eye-specialist/optician appointment for each CHO area, in tabular form; the reason there is a delay in such appointments being allocated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Patricia Ryan

Dear Deputy Ryan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (26364/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality services to all eligible service users. In 2022, there were 79,974 patients seen by HSE Ophthalmology services in Primary Care. It is worth noting that COVID-19 has posed significant challenges for many service areas in 2020, 2021 and 2022. The resulting ongoing impact is seen in the increased number of referrals and subsequent waiting lists for Primary Care Services.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the Ophthalmology waiting list for Children in each CHO area, as at the end of April 2023 which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – Ophthalmology Waiting List for Children as at the end of April 2023

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations