



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta  
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,  
Baile Átha Cliath 20, D20 HK69

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

1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

**PQ Number: 42987/23**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if a young person can be referred to a different CHO area for CAMHS-ID services if their CHO does not have a team in place; if so, to outline the procedure for this to operate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

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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.

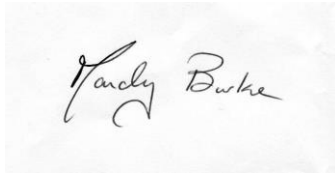
Camhs Intellectual Disability is a specialist mental health service for young people who have both a moderate to profound intellectual disability and a moderate to severe mental disorder. There is unfortunately an international shortage of Camhs Consultants in this specialist area and recruitment to these key posts has been challenging. The HSE are assertively trying to recruit more Consultants to these teams and we are hopeful that the new Consultant contract will have a positive impact on this process.

It is not possible to refer a young person to a different CHO area for CAMHS ID services, as teams are working to capacity and can only safely assess and treat young people in their own area. Children should attend their local Community Disability Network Team for intervention in relation to their disability and their GP if there is a concern regarding a moderate to severe mental disorder, who in turn can discuss with the catchment area Executive Clinical Director.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.



Yours sincerely,



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**Dr Amanda Burke**  
**National Clinical Lead**  
**Child & Youth Mental Health**