

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

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Deputy Róisín Shorthall. Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

12th February 2024

PQ Number: 45903/23 PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting list for each CAMHS unit and the number of patients that have been waiting for over 6, 12, 18 and 24 months, in tabular form. – Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shorthall,

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 provide specialist mental health service to those aged up to 18 years, who have reached the threshold for a diagnosis of moderate to severe mental health disorder that require the input of a multi-disciplinary mental health teams.

There are four inpatient CAMHS units in Ireland. Eist Linn CAMHS which is situated in Cork, Linn Dara CAMHS which is situated in Dublin South West, Merlin Park CAMHS which is situated in Galway and St Vincent's CAMHS. Currently, there are 72 CAMHS in-patient beds registered with the Mental Health Commission, 51 of which are currently operational. As of the 31st October 2023, 30 of these beds were occupied.

Despite reduced operational bed capacity, there continues to be available capacity to admit when a young person requires intensive in-patient treatment. The HSE can confirm that we do not have, nor has there ever been a situation whereby any child or young person was waiting over 6 months for an in-patient bed in one of the four HSE CAMHS units.

In answer to the Deputy's question we can provide interval (date of referral) to admission data for each of the four CAMHS inpatient units. Please see below from January – September 2023.



Interval to Admission All Units (143)

Interval to Admission	No.
Same Day	27
1 - 2 Days	39
3 - 6 Days	20
7 - 14 Days	34
15 - 21 Days	10
> 22 Days	13
Total	143

Interval to Admission Linn Dara (47)

Interval to Admission	No.
Same Day	9
1 - 2 Days	15
3 - 6 Days	6
7 - 14 Days	10
15 - 21 Days	3
> 22 Days	4
Total	47

Interval to Admission St. Vincent's AIPU (34)

Interval to Admission	No.
Same Day	6
1 - 2 Days	7
3 - 6 Days	7
7 - 14 Days	8
15 - 21 Days	1
> 22 Days	5
Total	34

Interval to Admission Merlin Park (48)

Interval to Admission	No.
Same Day	11
1 - 2 Days	13
3 - 6 Days	3
7 - 14 Days	12
15 - 21 Days	6
> 22 Days	3
Total	48



Interval to Admission Eist Linn (14)

Interval to Admission	No.
Same Day	1
1 - 2 Days	4
3 - 6 Days	4
7 - 14 Days	4
15 - 21 Days	0
> 22 Days	1
Total	14

The above information is correct as at November 2023.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Braham Senior Operations Manager (Area DON) National Mental Health Services