



Oifig an Stiúrtóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

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

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

5th October 2023

PQ Number: 39144/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the yearly average number of appointments per CAMHS patient per CHO area; the recommended number of appointments per patient; 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.

CAMHS provide specialist mental health services 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 multi-disciplinary mental health teams.

The table below outlines the number of attended appointments in CAMHS by CHO area for 2022.

Number of attended appointments CAMHS	
CHO Area	2022
CHO 1	24,697
CHO 2	35,821
CHO 3	11,883
CHO 4	28,076
CHO 5	14,613
CHO 6	28,965
CHO 7	29,856
CHO 8	29,854
CHO 9	20,920
Total	224,685



The latest available data is at end of **July 2023**. Please note this data is live and therefore subject to change and amendment. There were 7,750 New/re-referred appointments offered in Community CAMHS of which 7,277 attended and 473 did not attend.

To the end of July there was a total of 142,591 appointments offered in Community CAMHS, of which 130,413 attended and 12,178 did not attend.

At the end of Q1 2023, there was 19,224 children attending Community CAMHS.

Multi-disciplinary Team (MDT) Reviews

Formal reviews are an important part of the management of all open cases. Each CAMHS team has a weekly team meeting to discuss:

- New Referrals
- Open Cases requiring review
- Cases being considered for discharge from the team

Each open case is formally reviewed by the CAMHS multidisciplinary team at a minimum of every six months. The key worker and the administrative staff on the CAMHS team are often best placed to coordinate and make sure that this review takes place when required.

In terms of recommended number of appointments per patient, this varies from, patient to patient and is based on the clinical needs of the individual.

Further information Promoting Attendance at Appointments and Management of Non-Attendance at Initial Appointments can be found by consulting with the CAMHS Operational Guidelines:

<https://assets.hse.ie/media/documents/ncr/camhs-operational-guideline-2019.pdf>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Braham', written over a horizontal line.

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