



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8

Office of the National Clinical
Advisor and Group Lead for Mental
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Deputy Mark Ward.
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

21st September 2023

PQ number: 39173/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the roll-out of dual diagnosis services within CAMHS; the training that will be offered to staff in both mental health and addiction services; 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.

The Adolescent Dual Diagnosis teams will provide services for those in the age group of 10 to 17 years. They will follow a hub-and-spoke model. Four hub Adolescent Dual Diagnosis teams are recommended as part of this Model of Care for Adolescents. The four hub teams will be multidisciplinary in nature and will also include Outreach workers for youths and Family therapists. In addition to this, there will also be spoke teams as recommended in the Model of Care. Each spoke Adolescent Dual Diagnosis service will have Clinical Nurse Specialists and Addiction Counsellors.

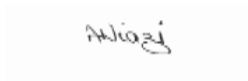
Currently we are working with our partners in Social Inclusion in CHO 9 to enhance the already existing SASSY team to enable this team to convert from an Addiction Services team to a Dual Diagnosis team. Three Whole Time Equivalent (WTEs) which includes a Family Therapist, Senior Clinical Psychologist and Clinical Nurse Specialist are initially being recruited for this team at present and the other required multidisciplinary team members and further Adolescent Dual Diagnosis WTEs for other recommended teams in the Model of Care will be recruited when further resources are made available in the future.

Regarding training, we are currently working with our HSE and external partners to develop a separate Dual Diagnosis training programme to support the implementation of the Model of Care. This training will be available to both mental health and addiction staff, working in the HSE and our NGO partners. In addition to same, associated training in mental health and addictions will also be available through HSE Social Inclusion, National Office of Suicide Prevention and HSE Mental Health Services as described in the Model of Care. The Dual

Diagnosis training will consist of blended online and in person training. We anticipate the first elements of this training will be developed by the end of 2023/ early 2024.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amir Niazi".

Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor