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**Deputy Ruairí Ó Murchú
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

41030/23: To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the numbers of dentists around the State still treating medical card patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ó Murchú,

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

Adult medical card holders have access to dental services under the Dental Treatment Service. Dental Treatment is made available to medical card holders over the age of 16 through the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS). Dentists who hold a contract with the Scheme provide a range of treatments which are funded by the HSE.


Patients may attend any of the contracted dentists – the list is available at local HSE Dental clinics and online at HSE Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) Online Services.

The number of dentists participating in the DTSS (September 2023) is detailed in the Table below. (Note: contractors who have resigned but are still serving their 3 months notice period are included in the list as they are required to participate in the scheme for this period)

Year	No. of dentists participating in the DTSS
2023 (YTD September 2023)	806

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,



Anne M O Neill
AND, National Oral Health Lead