



Oifig um Cheannasaí Seirbhíse do Chúram Príomhúil
Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair
Ascaill Bhaile Choimín,
Páirc Gnó an Ráithín,
Ráithín, Luimneach V94 D1W9
Teil: 061 483226

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16th July 2024

Deputy Cathal Crowe
4 Francis St., Ennis
Co. Clare

Re: PQ 28962/24 - "To ask the Minister for Health when funding will be released for orthodontic treatment at St. Camillus in Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Dr. Mullane, Lead Orthodontist has advised that in an effort to reduce the waiting times for patients on the HSE Orthodontic treatment waiting list, funding has been provided for the outsourcing of orthodontic treatment for some patients to private service providers under the National Orthodontic Waiting List Initiative.

Following an orthodontic assessment by the HSE Orthodontic Service, patients who are deemed eligible to receive HSE orthodontic treatment are categorised into two grades in accordance with the HSE Modified IOTN Eligibility Guidelines and placed on the treatment waiting list. The two grade categories are as follows:

- Grade 5: Severe malocclusion e.g. impacted teeth, multiple missing teeth and increased overjet (prominence of the teeth);
- Grade 4: Less severe malocclusion e.g. deep overbite, crossbite and crowding.

Under the National Orthodontic Treatment Waiting List Initiative, funding has been provided for the outsourcing of some Grade 4 patients to private service providers.

Dr. Mullane advised that to date, no funding has been provided for the outsourcing of orthodontic treatment for Grade 5 patients on the HSE Orthodontic treatment waiting list. Dr. Mullane advised that the HSE is currently engaged in a procurement process for the outsourcing of orthodontic treatment for Grade 5a patients. As the procurement process is ongoing, I am not in a position to confirm a timeframe for the completion of this process.

I trust this information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Costello
Head of Service Primary Care