



Príomhfheidhmeannach ag gníomhú di Grúpa
An Grúpa Ollscoile um Chúram Sláinte Saolta

Ospidéal Ollscoile na Gaillimhe
Bóthar an Chaisleáin Nua
Gaillimh H91 YR71 Éire

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Deputy Catherine Connolly,
Leinster House,
Kildare St.,
Dublin 2.

16th August, 2024.

PQ 33364/24 - 'To ask the Minister for Health the number of people waiting for treatment for osteoporosis in CHO2, by county and periods spent waiting, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.'

-Catherine Connolly

Dear Deputy Connolly,

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 current waiting list for the OPD Osteoporosis clinic in Rheumatology which is held at Galway University Hospitals for the Saolta Group.

Osteoporosis	Galway County	Galway City	Mayo	Roscommon	Clare	Westmeath	Overall Total
No. of Patients Awaiting treatment	79	35	23	9	1	1	148

From the list of patients above, the following is the breakdown of waiting times:

Osteoporosis WL	0-3 Mths	3-6 Mths	6-9 Mths	9-12 Mths	12-15 Mths	15-18 Mths	18-21 Mths	21-24 Mths	24-36 Mths	Total
No. of Patients	20	39	19	19	16	10	16	5	4	148

Patients are seen in order of clinical priority where urgent patients are seen first. This may increase the waiting time for non-urgent patients. Consultant vacancies in Rheumatology have contributed to the longer waiting times, however, a new consultant is taking up post in September.

Extra clinic initiatives have been organised in Rheumatology and all specialties to reduce the waiting times for patients on our waiting lists.



Patients awaiting DXA scans for bone density or attending the Fracture Clinic may also receive a diagnosis of Osteoporosis, however, it is not possible to extract specific osteoporosis cases from the overall DXA and Fracture Clinic figures.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Cosgrove', written in a cursive style.

**Ann Cosgrove,
Interim Chief Executive Officer
Saolta University Health Care Group.**