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8th May, 2024.

Mr. Padraig O'Sullivan, T.D., Dáil Éireann, Dublin 2

PQ ref 19420/24

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of children in CHO4 that are waiting for a medical appliance, for example, wheelchair, orthotics and shower chair, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

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.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) has made substantial strides in enhancing our services, particularly in the area of aids and appliances provision. Our Primary Care Team has dedicated considerable efforts to implementing efficient systems aimed at reducing waiting times across Cork Kerry.

We are pleased to report that, currently, there are no children awaiting approval for a wheelchair, orthotics or shower chair within our region. However, it is important to note that for certain specialised equipment, there may be lead times associated with fitting, building, and delivery, which extend beyond the direct control of the HSE. Despite these external factors, we remain committed to providing timely and effective support to all individuals in need.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare remain fully committed to maintaining and improving upon these standards to ensure the continued satisfaction and well-being of service users.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Priscilla Lynch Head of Service - Primary Care, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare