



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,  
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10 October 2024

Deputy Matt Shanahan  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 35208/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of juvenile patients on the orthodontic dental waiting list; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Shanahan,

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.

The HSE funds orthodontic treatment for children whose eligibility is defined by a clinical assessment and categorisation against an internationally recognised orthodontic index.

The IOTN (Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need) categorises patients into five groups based on clinical need. The HSE National Orthodontic treatment guidelines provides funding for those assessed as grade 5 and a limited range of grade 4 IOTN patient categories, who are placed on treatment waiting lists across the Orthodontic Service nationally.

The number of orthodontic patients waiting to commence treatment following assessment at the end of June 2024 is detailed in the table below.

<b>Grade 4 IOTN</b>	4,265
<b>Grade 5 IOTN</b>	6,777
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,042</b>

*Source: KPI Data June 2024 (Latest available)*

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 O'Neill**

**Assistant National Director, Oral Health**