

30 May 2025

Erin McGreehan, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ 21169/25

To ask the Minister for Health the measures being taken to routinely collect data on addiction service waiting lists, ensuring that services are adequately resourced to meet demand.

Dear Deputy McGreehan,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE monitors performance and activity against various targets for social inclusion as set out in the National Service Plan '25. The following metrics are reported on in relation to HSE addiction services;

Under Access:

Substance Use – Quarterly in arrears

- % of substance users (under 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one week following assessment
- % of substance users (over 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one calendar month following assessment

Under Receiving Care at the Right Time:

Opioid Agonist Treatment – Monthly (one month in arrears)

- Mean time in clinics from referral to assessment for opioid agonist treatment
- Mean time in clinics from opioid agonist assessment to treatment commenced
- No. of clients in receipt of opioid agonist treatment (outside prisons)

Substance Use – Quarterly in arrears

- % of substance users (over 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one calendar month following assessment
- % of substance users (under 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one week following assessment

Problem Alcohol Use – Quarterly in arrears

- % of problem alcohol users (over 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one calendar month following assessment
- % of problem alcohol users (under 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one week following assessment

Needle Exchange – Quarterly in arrears

- No. of unique individuals attending pharmacy needle exchange

For the Deputy's information population based resource allocation (PBRA) is a funding model that seeks to distribute available healthcare resources according to population need to promote efficiency and equity in both health outcomes and distribution of resources. The PBRA model is a core component of Regional Health Area implementation.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Doyle

National Lead, Social Inclusion