



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
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Deputy Heneghan,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Date: 7th May 2025

PQ Number: 21663/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the level of funding allocated to adult eating disorder services in each of the past five years; the amount of funding drawn down and spent in each year

Dear Deputy Heneghan,

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 position.

The HSE has prioritised eating disorder services as part of National Clinical Programmes (NCPs) and has established a specific clinical programme for eating disorders. The NCPs aim to develop person-centred, integrated care through a clinician-led, evidence-based approach to service reform. The need for specialist services is reflected in Sharing the Vision and more recently in the new Programme for Government. In January 2018 the HSE published a National Model of Care for Eating Disorders (MOC) in partnership with College of Psychiatrists' of Ireland and Bodywhys.

Most people can and do recover from eating disorders if they receive effective, evidence-based treatment from eating disorder (ED)-trained staff. While a small number of people benefit from more intensive treatment through day programmes or inpatient care, the most effective treatment setting is in the community. The HSE's core focus is on developing regional community-based specialist eating disorder services across CAMHS and adult populations (in line with MOC) provided by skilled multidisciplinary teams, through the National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders. The table below outlines the teams by HSE Regional area.

Eating Disorders Regional teams by HSE Regions

Region /population	Current Eating Disorders Teams
HSE Dublin and North East: (1,187,082 population)	Cavan Monaghan – adult team
	Dublin North City and West – CAMHS Team
	Dublin North County – Adult Team

HSE Dublin and Midlands: (1,077,639 population)	Dublin South City and West/Kildare/West Wicklow – CAMHS Team
New 2025	Dublin South West/Kildare – Adult Team in recruitment 2025
New 2025	Midlands - Adult Team in recruitment 2025
HSE Dublin and South East: (971,093 Population)	Carlow Kilkenny/ Tipperary South/Waterford Wexford – Adult Team
	Dublin South and Wicklow – CAMHS Dublin South and Wicklow Adult Team
HSE Mid-West: (413,059 Population) New 2025	CAMHS ED team – Midwest in recruitment 2025
HSE South West: (740,614 population)	CAMHS team Adult team
HSE West and North West: (759,652 population)	CAMHS Team – Galway/Roscommon Adult Team – Sligo/Leitrim/South Donegal

Notes on Table

- While we develop specialist teams across areas there are a number of ANPs and other dedicated staff working in Cavan CAMHS, Donegal, Midlands, South Tipperary CAMHS that are preparing sites and attending all our training and education.
- Since the MOC was published (2018) the population has grown, and this will be reflected in any review.

There has been a significant investment by Government in the development of specialist Eating Disorders Team. Budget 2024 announced the funding of 5 WTEs for Dublin South West to commence an adult eating disorders team and 2 additional WTEs for Dublin South and Wicklow CAMHS team. As a National Clinical Programme we welcome the additional investment in eating disorder teams across the country by Minister Butler in 2025 budget. We have prioritised a number of areas and posts in order to maximise the investment and ensure that services are safe, of high quality and in regions that are ready to establish a service. This will deliver 2 new teams: CAMHS ED team in Mid-West and Adult ED team in Midlands. It will also enable adult ED Teams in Carlow/Kilkenny and Dublin South West to deliver a service across their large catchment area. Fully resourced teams across full catchment areas are necessary to ensure early intervention and to ultimately improve clinical outcomes and reduce costs in the long term.

In addition the Department of Health has funded a number of physician and pediatric consultant posts through Women's Health Fund to improve integrated care between acute hospitals and community eating disorders teams.

Since 2016 €8.9 million in funding has been allocated to the National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders (NCP-ED) and the roll-out of the Model of Care for the NCP-ED continues to be prioritised. The HSE currently spends €7.7m million annually on eating disorder services

under the Clinical Programme and dedicated investment continues with an additional €2.4 Million allocated in Budget 2025 – full year costs.

Further information on the HSE National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders can be found here:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/mental-health/eating-disorders/>

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi
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Clinical Design and Innovation
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