

10th March, 2025

Mr. Thomas Gould, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 7662/25**

**"To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients seen in Southdoc, Blackpool, Cork in January 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025."**

Dear Deputy Gould,

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.

In relation to 2021 and 2025, Blackpool patients treated via home visit or telemedicine are not included in the figure below. In 2024 the figure requested was 68.

All city patients are processed through a single treatment centre address which is Cork City and appointments allocated in accordance with clinical need.

This centralised approach aims to streamline the patient management process, ensuring efficient and timely access to necessary medical services. By consolidating the management process of the patients' clinical needs, the Cork City Centre can better allocate resources, adapting to the varying levels of clinical need among its diverse patient population.

All patients are treated in accordance with clinical condition. Specifically in relation to Cork city patients, including Blackpool, 51% of patients are dealt with by a doctor within two hours, a further 22% within three hours, and 85% within four hours.

This treatment level is well within the recommended guidelines as laid down by the Irish Congress General Practitioners and in line with the overall pattern of the organisation

Please find below updated table with number of patients seen, as Treatment Centre Appointments, in SouthDoc Blackpool.

	<b>January 2019</b>	<b>January 2021</b>	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>January 2025</b>
<b>Number of patients seen in Southdoc, Blackpool, Cork</b>	2,180	0	581	0

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

Yours sincerely,

**Mari O'Donovan**  
**Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,**  
**HSE South West**