

13<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

Deputy Pádraig Rice,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: 8831/ 25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of people waiting to access HSE funded alcohol addiction services/ treatment and the length of time they have been waiting, in tabular form.**

Dear Deputy Rice,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

An analysis of the data provided in treatment services within the National Drugs Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) (see information about the [NDTRS](#)) includes all cases treated for problem use of drugs as a main problem in 2023 (the most recent year available). The analysis includes all treatment cases reporting alcohol as a main problem which were assessed and treated at publicly funded service providers in the year 2023 and who report to the NDTRS. Length of time is measured as the difference between when a case was assessed and when the case was treated where both data points were available. The number of cases treated are summarised by time-period in Table 1.

Of the 8,163 cases treated in 2023 the average time between assessment and treatment was 4.7 days. The median time was 0 days.

**Table 1: Number of cases by time waiting for treatment for problem alcohol use, NDTRS 2023.**

Time period between assessment and treatment	Number of cases
7 days or less	7011
8 – 28 days	779
1 -2 months	246
2- 6 months	102
More than 6 months	19

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

Yours sincerely,

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Joseph Doyle  
National Lead, Social Inclusion