



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
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Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 38175/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of special care patients including both adult and children, who are on dental surgery waiting lists according to data held by local health offices at the end of quarter 2 for each year from 2013 to 2025 in tabular form; the breakdown by waiting timeband and by local health office; the number on waiting lists for dental surgery under general anaesthesia; and the median waiting time for each..

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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 Community Dental Service provides emergency care, dental examinations and treatment to children up to the age of 16. The service also provides dental treatment directly to a range of adult patients with additional needs, with the majority of adult medical card holders being provided with access through the DTSS. A small proportion of children and adults with additional needs will be identified as being unable to accept dental care without the assistance of sedation.

The data is not available as requested. The HSE dental service has access to a number of referral pathways (not including CHI) for which a recent survey was undertaken (summary below). These numbers were at a point in time (June 2025) and subject to regular change as this data is not routinely collated by the regions. The waiting periods for each location are individual and resource dependent.

The data does not include patients who require orthognathic surgery (corrective jaw surgery which realigns the bones and teeth for patients with severe orthodontic problems which cannot be treated by orthodontics alone). Waiting lists for orthognathic surgery are not collated centrally.

The data does not include patients waiting for treatment under GA at CHI.

HSE Region	Number of patients waiting
South West	<p>Under 16 - 807 patients waiting Under 16 special needs - 321 patients waiting Adult special needs - 115 patients waiting</p> <p>In addition, CUDSH provides services to the Region under SLA, their total waiting lists across regions are 384 under 16 patients and 48 Adult special needs patients.</p>
Dublin and Midlands Region	<p>Under 16 - 654 patients waiting Adult special needs - 102 patients waiting</p>
South East	<p>Under 16 - 121 patients waiting Special needs (Adult and child) - 210 patients waiting</p> <p>In addition: CUDSH provides services to the Region under SLA, their total waiting lists across regions are 384 under 16 patients and 48 Adult special needs patients. Under 16 purchased from UPMC Clane – 500 patients in total waiting across regions Connolly Regional Waiting List – 89 patients in total waiting across regions</p>
MidWest	<p>Under 16 - 834 patients waiting Adult special needs - 120 patients waiting</p>
Dublin North East	<p>Under 16 - 123 patients waiting Under 16 special needs - 42 patients waiting Adult special needs - 107 patients waiting</p> <p>In addition: Under 16 purchased from UPMC Clane – 500 in total waiting across regions Connolly Regional Waiting List – 89 patients in total waiting across regions</p>
West and North West	<p>Under 16 - 344 patients waiting Special needs (adult and children) - 353 patients waiting</p>

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